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ABSTRACT

This fifth annual edition of the Kids Count report investigates county and statewide trends in the well-being of West Virginia's children between 1980 and 1994, focusing on child poverty and low school achievement, and profiles three exemplary schools serving large numbers of low-income students. The statistical report is based on 18 indicators of child well-being: (1) student attendance; (2) percent of high school dropouts; (3) percent of high school graduates; (4) pupil to teacher ratio; (5) teacher/administrator experience; (6) percent of births to mothers with less than a twelfth grade education; (7) percent of children approved for free/reduced school meals; (8) employment to population ratio; (9) the unemployment rate; (10) percent low birth-weight babies; (11) infant mortality rate; (12) child death rate; (13) child abuse/neglect rate; (14) teen birth rate; (15) percent births to unmarried teens; (16) juvenile delinquency case rate; (17) teen violent death rate; and (18) percent of eligible children served by Head Start. Findings indicate that almost all counties meet or exceed the required standard of 93 percent school attendance rate; child poverty averages 47 percent statewide; 50 percent of adults are employed (the nation's lowest percentage); and the unemployment rate is about 9 percent. There have been increases in the percent of low birth-weight babies, the child abuse/neglect rate, and the percent of births to unmarried teens. There have been decreases in infant mortality rate, child death rate, percent approved for free/reduced school meals, teen birth rate, high school dropout rate, juvenile delinquency case rate, and teen violent death rate. Appendices provide definitions, methodology, and data sources. (KDFB)

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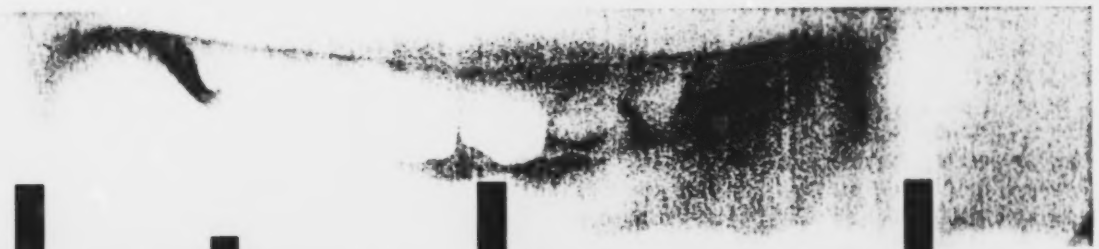

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This publication was assembled and produced under the general direction of Margie Hale, Executive Director, West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund.

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Special recognition is given to David Perine with the WV Department of Education who encouraged numerous schools across West Virginia to be their very best as he coordinated the state's Blue Ribbon School program. David also helped in the selection of the schools to be profiled in this *Data Book*. Thanks to the principals of these schools for letting us tell their story. It begins on page six.

West Virginia KIDS COUNT could not do its work without the financial support of both The Annie E. Casey Foundation and the West Virginia businesses who have contributed funds to underwrite the costs of *Data Book* production. Thank you business sponsors! The business sponsors are listed on the inside cover page of this book.

West Virginia KIDS COUNT is grateful to the leadership of the national Kids Count staff, Bill O'Hare, Jennifer Baratz, and Michelle Williams. The theme of this edition of the *WV KIDS COUNT Data Book* was inspired by their 1996 national book and its recommendation to improve education. We are also grateful to the many West Virginians who make kids count.

Permission to copy, disseminate or otherwise use information from the *Data Book* is granted as long as appropriate acknowledgment is given. Additional copies are available for $5.00 each from the West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund, 1031 Quarrier Street, Suite 313 Atlas Building, Charleston, WV 25301.

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Foreword

The improvement of education in areas of high poverty is one of the critical factors to reduce welfare dependency and to prepare students to participate in tomorrow's economy.

The *1996 West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund Data Book* is the 5th annual profile of the condition of West Virginia's children. A project of the West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund in collaboration with the West Virginia University Survey Research Center, West Virginia KIDS COUNT brings together the best available data to measure the health, economic, educational and social well-being of children in West Virginia.

In 1989, the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Center for the Study of Social Policy launched KIDS COUNT. This initiative is premised on the belief that the more the public and policy-makers know about the status and needs of children, the greater the likelihood those needs will be addressed.

Funded in 1991, West Virginia KIDS COUNT is one 51 similar projects throughout the United States.

The *1996 West Virginia KIDS COUNT Data Book* measures twelve indicators of child and adolescent health, education and economic status. It also includes background information for each county, including demographic and family income data.

A new feature this year is a display of nine state maps called Education and Children in Poverty. The nine indicators display some key education and economic indicators to provide a geographic portrait of education and poverty in West Virginia.

The Education and Children in Poverty maps display the following indicators: percent of enrolled students attending school; percent of high school dropouts; percent of high school graduates; pupil to teacher ratio; teacher/ administrator experience in years; percent of births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education; percent of children approved for free or reduced school meals; employment-population ratio; and unemployment rate.

Last year's *West Virginia KIDS COUNT Data Book* continued to inspire community action for at-risk children and helped many communities secure funding for programs targeted to at-risk youth.

This year we have noted some key education indicators on each county page. These education indicators are in the box in the right lower corner of each county page. KIDS COUNT Child Watch continues this year, and it will engage business, religious, and other private-sector leaders to improve early childhood education for at-risk children. In addition, the KIDS COUNT Fund is establishing KIDS COUNT Chapters, which will have at least 50 percent of its leadership from the business sector. These chapters will be supported by the KIDS COUNT Fund through information, ideas, and mini-grants.

Making KIDS COUNT in West Virginia is a shared enterprise. Consider how you might join in the support of the children of West Virginia. We all need to do more. To join a constituency for children and become part of the solution, call 1-888-KIDS COUNT (1-888-543-7268).

Overview

This year's *West Virginia KIDS COUNT Data Book*, the 5th Annual Edition, focuses on education and children in poverty. We have chosen this focus because we believe the improvement of education in areas of high poverty is one of the critical factors to reduce welfare dependency and to prepare students to participate in tomorrow's economy.

As Board member and Braxton County Superintendent of schools Kenna Seal said, "The single most powerful predictor of school achievement is socioeconomic status." According to the West Virginia Education Fund's 1995 report, *Achieving Despite Adversity*, a comparison of 33 high- and 33 low-achieving elementary schools found that the lowest-achieving schools had 2.5 times more students receiving free and reduced-priced meals as did the highest achieving schools. Free and reduced-priced meals is often used as a surrogate measure for poverty, and the Education Fund refers to recipients of this service as "needy."

After a lot of discussion with members of both the KIDS COUNT Research and Marketing committees of the KIDS COUNT Project and an ad hoc committee of educators, we decided that this *Data Book* would display maps depicting how the counties fair on nine education-poverty related indicators. We decided early on to avoid using test measures since they are so controversial. We also decided to identify high-achieving schools who serve high concentrations of poor children and prepare profiles of these schools so other West Virginia schools may learn how to replicate their achievements. These profiles begin on page six.

The education-poverty indicators we have chosen are (1) student attendance, (2) percent of high school dropouts, (3) percent of high school graduates, (4) pupil to teacher ratio, (5) teacher/administrator experience in years, (6) percent of births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education, (7) percent of children approved for free and reduced school meals, (8) employment to population ratio, and (9) the unemployment rate.

Examining these state maps, which begin on page eight, the reader can see how counties are performing on the measures indicated. The factors associated with low-achieving schools include teachers with lower educational levels and less experience, fewer years of teaching in the present building, and lower faculty morale. Characteristics associated with high performing schools include a strong and determined attitude among teachers that children can and will achieve, a strong student pride in the school, high attention paid to the school by the central office, a number of enrichment programs, and a principal with an open-communication style who is supportive of the teachers and the academic program. In the maps, you will see attendance, which is one measure of the student's motivation to go to school. Other factors related to performance are the teacher/administrator experience, the percent of high school drop outs, and the percent of high school graduates.

What can West Virginia do to reduce the number of its children in poverty, now almost 30 percent, or to reduce its number of teens who are idle or to reduce the percentage of our children who live in families who work full time and yet are still poor?

There is no one solution nor is there any solution that can provide a quick fix. There are things, both short and long-term, that can make a difference. Some of the short-term efforts, which appear to be taking on long-term status, are making health care available for young parents who now have low-wage jobs and will have low-wage jobs through welfare reform. West Virginia has done a tremendous job covering the poor and near poor with Medicaid. However, Medicaid costs, particularly to the elderly, continue to skyrocket and some restructuring is needed. The Earned Income Tax Credit, which was first introduced in the late 1970s and then expanded in the Reagan, Bush, and Clinton administrations, provides low-income wage earners with a refundable tax credit that enlarges their net income. According to the *1996 National KIDS COUNT Data Book*, in 1994 the Earned Income Tax Credit lifted 1.7 million children with low-wage working parents out of poverty.

Education Indicators

Indicator	State Percent/Rate
Percent of Students Attending School	92.2%
Percentage of High School Dropouts	16.2%
Percent of High School Graduates	94.6%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.7
Years of Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.7 yrs
Percent Of All Births To Mothers With Less Than A 12th Grade Education	23.6%
Percent Of All Children Approved For Free And Reduced School Meals (Grades K-12)	46.7%
Employment to Population Ratio	50.0%
1994 Unemployment Rate	8.9%

Overview , continued

To demonstrate the possibility of high-achieving schools in areas that serve high concentrations of low-income students, we chose three schools, each of which has recently been designated a national blue ribbon school. A national blue ribbon school provides opportunities for students at risk and those unusually talented; a staff development program, particularly for new teachers; and a program to recognize excellence of teachers. It involves teachers in decision making. It has strategies for the motivation of staff, parents and students to accomplish the school's goals; special programs to assist potential dropouts; programs that prepare students to live effectively in a society that is culturally and ethnically diverse; and parent involvement. Furthermore, it supports the needs of student families and communicates student progress and overall school performance to parents.

We decided to profile one high school, one junior high school and one elementary school, each located in a different region of the state. The elementary school is Troy, located in Gilmer County; the junior high is Sherman, located in Boone County; and the high school is Hundred, located in Wetzel.

TROY ELEMENTARY

Troy Elementary is located roughly in the center of the state in Gilmer County. Over the last 14 years, the unemployment rate in Gilmer County has increased by 30.7 percent. The principal employers in the county include the Board of Education and the oil and gas industry as well as Glenville State College. Recently, Gilmer County got its first McDonald's, and folks were excited about the opportunity for more jobs.

Troy Elementary is a warm and inviting place. It smells nice. The lockers are all painted in bright colors; all of the classrooms are warm and inviting. There are many programs and projects going on. Displays seem to be either coming down or going up throughout the course of the day. There are all kinds of innovative programs. One program teaches children how to write letters--they have their own mail delivery system, and it is called "Wee Deliver." Each child and staff has his own address, and it is based upon his floor, room, and desk. For example, the principal's office address is No. 1 Pebble Road, Big Rock, West Virginia 20202. The 2 in the zip code means that it is on the second floor.

A parent volunteer works in the library, and she said she believes Troy Elementary has the best library in the county because it has the most books and the most new books. The school has a computer lab, and every student spends 30 minutes in the lab using the program developed for teaching basic skills. There is a beautiful gymnasium; its floor was recently refinished. Outside new landscaping has added shrub boxes and new cement for nice walkways. Building of the school started in 1928 and was finished in 1932. It was originally used as a high school, and the high school class pictures dating back to 1932 line the entryway walls into the main building of the school; the basketball teams' pictures line the entryway walls into the gymnasium.

The students, except for the second grade this last year, all performed well above average on the testing programs currently being used by the state that tests reading, language, math, science and social studies. The school serves children pre-kindergarten through the 6th grade. The four-year-olds attend school four days a week for the full school day, and the kindergarten through 6th grade attend a full day, five days a week. Troy Elementary has a 98 percent promotion rate.

There is an excess levy in Gilmer County. This provides additional funds, and it is another indication of parental support for education in the county.

Dorothy Rhodes is the principal of Troy Elementary, and she became the principal because there were things she wanted to do as a teacher that she couldn't do because her principal wouldn't let her. So now she and her teachers are doing all the things she wanted to do, and it has won them national as well as community recognition.

Mrs. Rhodes was encouraged by Ronald Blankenship, Superintendent of Schools in her county, to seek national recognition. He continued to encourage her and to tell her what a wonderful job she and her staff were doing. He said they were already a blue ribbon school, and it would simply be a matter of her documenting it. So, one day she and her teachers decided to submit their application to the state. They were then visited by site reviewers and were awarded state blue ribbon status. The state forwarded their application to the national Department of Education for consideration for national blue ribbon school status. Dorothy said she never doubted they would win and, in fact, had arranged with the local pizza parlor to throw a party for them when they won. So when they won, she called them up and said it was time to bring the pizza. They did.

Dorothy was born in neighboring Calhoun County and moved to Gilmer County when she was six and has remained there. She has been in the education system for 18 years teaching reading, art, social studies, and the fourth grade, and seven years ago she became the principal of Troy Elementary.

Dorothy believes that the two most important ingredients to achieve excellence in the schools are (1) an effective parent

Indicators	Hundred High	Sherman Junior High	Troy Elementary
Student population	169	214	161
Average class size	18.6	20.6	19
Percent of students who attend regularly	95%	92.7%	95.1%
Children approved for free and reduced meals	58%	65%	79%
Average teacher/administrator experience	18.9 years	10.5 years	11.6 years
Pupil/Teacher ratio	13.5 to 1	13.5 to 1	18.9 to 1

Source: West Virginia Report Cards 1995-96, West Virginia Department of Education

Overview , continued

involvement program and (2) an effective motivation/recognition program for students. She believes these two ingredients are important no matter the income level of the students.

SHERMAN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Sherman Junior High School is located in Seth, Boone County, in part of the coal fields of southern West Virginia. Over the last 13 years, there has been almost a 50 percent drop in the number of high-paying industries. In a time gone by, most jobs were in coal. There are still some jobs in coal and lumbering, but Boone County has double-digit unemployment. According to the principal, probably the biggest employer is the Board of Education.

In some ways, Sherman Junior High is like a mirage. As I entered the school, I was blinded by the gloss of wax covering the floors, the bright colors of the lockers and the cleanliness of the place. The children's lockers were all uniformly painted one color and were unscratched. Every part of the building smelled like I remembered when my mother fixed my favorite meal when I was a child. The children were smiling, courteous and well behaved. There were clear routines to go from one class to another and to leave the gymnasium to return to class. All of these routines were designed to provide a sense of order and comfort to students who may not have that in their own personal lives.

The principal is John Hudson, who is in his fifth year as principal at Sherman Junior High. When he arrived at the school, Sherman had a reputation of being filled with rowdy students who were disrespectful of staff and who did not achieve either athletically or academically. When Sherman Junior High students showed up in other towns for either athletic or academic competitions, people would see them and say, "Oh, Sherman, we don't need to worry about them." According to Mr. Hudson, after a five-year building program with students and staff, the school has been transformed into a clean, structured, caring place where 70 percent of the students score above the 50th percentile and where the CTBS scores are the highest in the county. In addition, now when Sherman Junior High students show up at a spelling bee or a math contest, people take a second look. Sherman Junior High is not a mirage. It is real.

According to the principal, the school has achieved through five things: (1) strong leadership in instruction, (2) a positive school climate that is clean and demonstrates caring for children, (3) high expectations for the students and staff, (4) a strong emphasis on academics, and (5) frequent monitoring.

John Hudson is the son of a coal miner, his mother was an elementary school principal, and both of his parents taught him the value of education. Before becoming principal at Sherman, he did some teaching and was a principal at other elementary schools.

HUNDRED HIGH SCHOOL

Hundred High is located at the intersection of State Routes 7 and 250 in Hundred, Wetzel County. Route 7 is a very rough, two-lane mountainous road that follows a creek. From time-to-time, I would see a swinging bridge over the creek and would wonder if that was the only way some children get to their homes.

There is a feeling of solidness at Hundred High. The building is well-constructed, clean, brightly painted, and tastefully decorated. Things sparkle with cleanliness. This school has a long tradition of strong parent involvement and, in fact, the parents passed the bond to build the school. Mr. Shriver, the principal, grew up in Wetzel County. He has stayed in the area and has been in the education system for 28 years; 25 of those years have been at Hundred High, primarily as the principal. With his tenure, he has seen two generations of children come and go, and this gives him the great advantage of knowing the children and their families. In fact, Mr. Shriver says Hundred High is a place that is almost extinct. It is a small school with 169 students with an average graduating class of about 35.

In the cafeteria, there was a bulletin board made by the art teacher with holiday symbols cut out of construction paper. Each holiday symbol had the name of a student, and the entire bulletin board had everyone's name. The teacher made the senior class students the stars and put them at the top. Candy canes were for another class and snowflakes for another. I asked the principal how long this bulletin board had been up, and he said, "Oh, for several weeks." I was amazed that not a single name had been taken nor had it been disturbed in any way. Next to the bulletin board was a huge juke box. Maybe that is the reason nobody bothered the bulletin board.

Mr. Shriver believes that the most important things to do to strengthen schools include (1) building student self-esteem, (2) having high expectations of the students and expecting them to achieve, and (3) providing as many opportunities as possible to involve the students in extracurricular activities and to visit other programs so the children can be exposed to more of the world.

SUMMARY

The most obvious commonalities among these national blue ribbon schools are (1) structure, (2) cleanliness, (3) an inviting atmosphere through decoration, color and housekeeping, (4) caring staff who believe high expectations, caring and building pride are the keys to student achievement, (5) having a variety of programs which focus on pride, achievement and self-esteem, and (6) order.

The principals had several ideas about how their achievements could be replicated in other schools and districts serving high concentrations of poor children. These were their recommendations:

1. Encourage the exchange of information between principals and teachers throughout the state;
2. Select principals who want to help children and who are able to think creatively and to take risks;
3. Encourage teachers and principals to visit other high-achieving schools for ideas and inspiration;
4. Make sure the principal has a vision and is committed to high performance; and
5. Promote conferences where teachers and principals can interact and share programs and experiences.

Margie Hale
Executive Director
West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund

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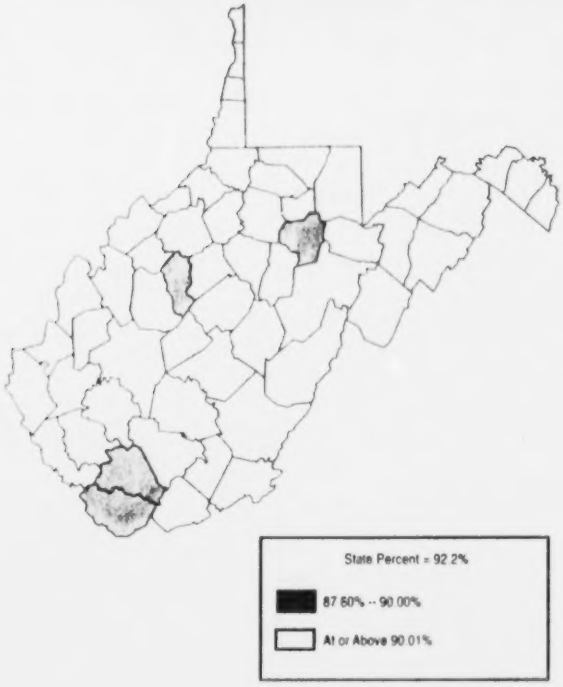
Education and Children in Poverty

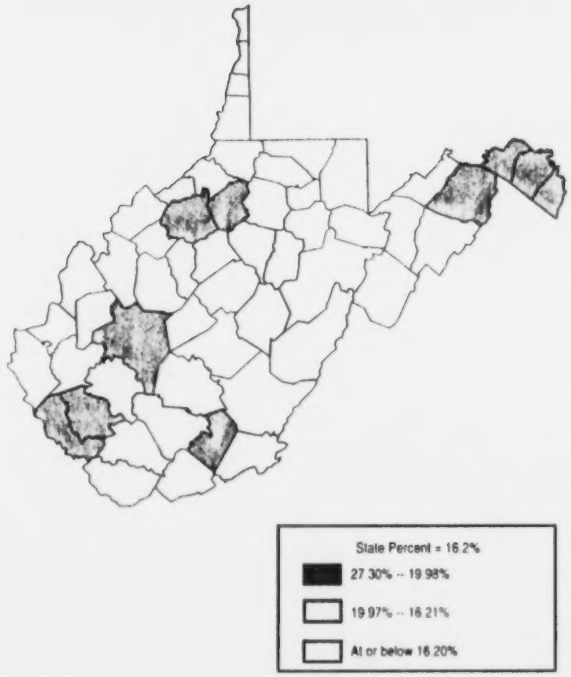
School Attendance



Percent of Students Attending School

The percent of student attendance is the percentage of school days attended by all students in schools with a terminal grade. The percent of all enrolled students attending school is required by the Board of Education to be at or above 90 percent. All but four West Virginia counties meet and/or exceed the standard. The four counties that do not meet the standard have attendance rates only slightly lower than what is required. The Board of Education will require by the year 2000 an attendance of 93 percent.

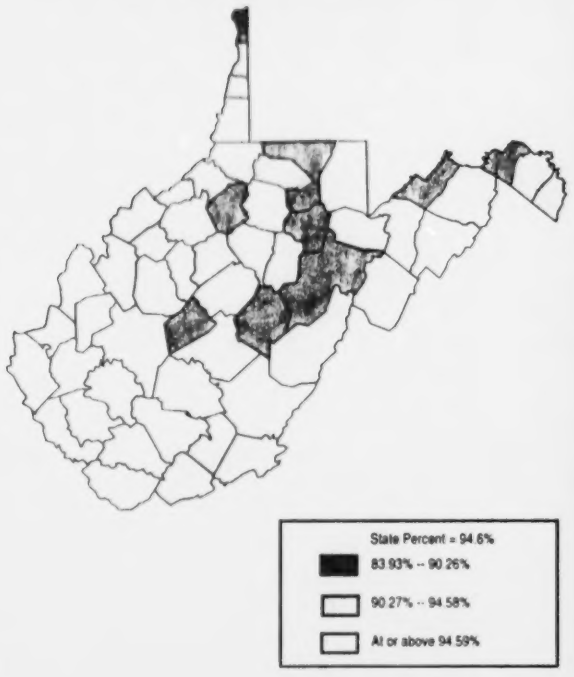
Dropout Rate



Percentage of High School Dropouts

The percent of dropouts is the percentage of students in grades seven through 12 who leave a public school before graduation without transferring to another school. The percent of students dropping out of high school in 1994 is 16.2. This is an increase from last year's dropout rate of 15.7 percent. The shaded areas show those counties with a dropout rate worse than the state average. The Board of Education's new policy will require a dropout rate of 6 percent in two of the most recent three years. With the change in how the dropout rate will be computed, the new rate, 6 percent, will be comparable to the current rate of 16.2 percent.

Graduation Rate

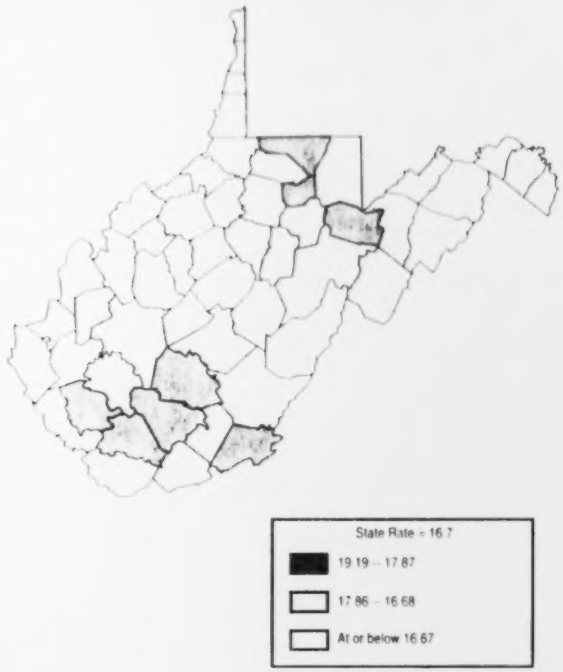


Percent of High School Graduates

The percent of high school graduates is the percentage of enrolled 12th grade students who graduate from high school. The percent of high school graduates is calculated by looking at the number of ninth graders who remain in school and graduate. It is not adjusted for migration as the State Department of Education's rate is; therefore, it is not the same. However, by the year 2000, the state will begin to use this measure and will require the graduation rate to be at or above 90 percent.

Education and Children in Poverty

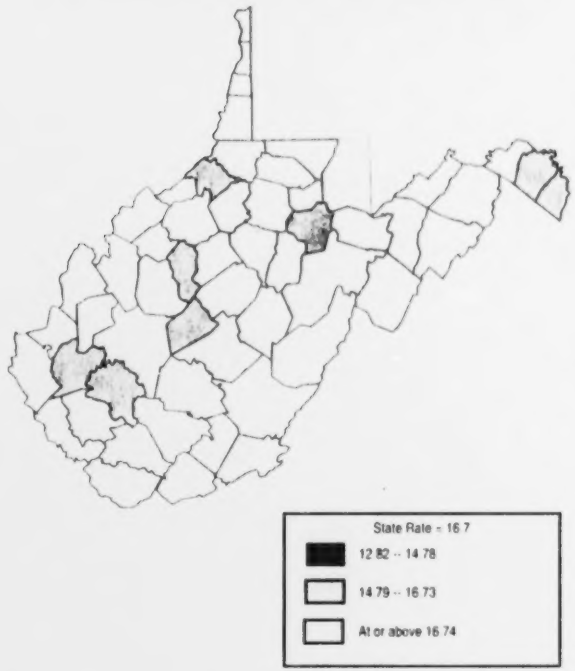
Pupil/Teacher Ratio



Pupil/Teacher Ratio

The pupil to teacher ratio is the number of pupils per teacher for schools with a terminal grade. The West Virginia State Legislature requires a pupil to teacher ratio for elementary schools of 25 to 1. The state map above reveals that every county exceeds this standard although county averages can mask some individual schools or classrooms that may not meet this standard. Exemptions are possible for individual schools and classrooms that exceed the standard. No exceptions are allowed for the first through third grades. Since data is not available for individual classrooms, this ratio includes all professional instructional staff, including counselors and speech therapists.

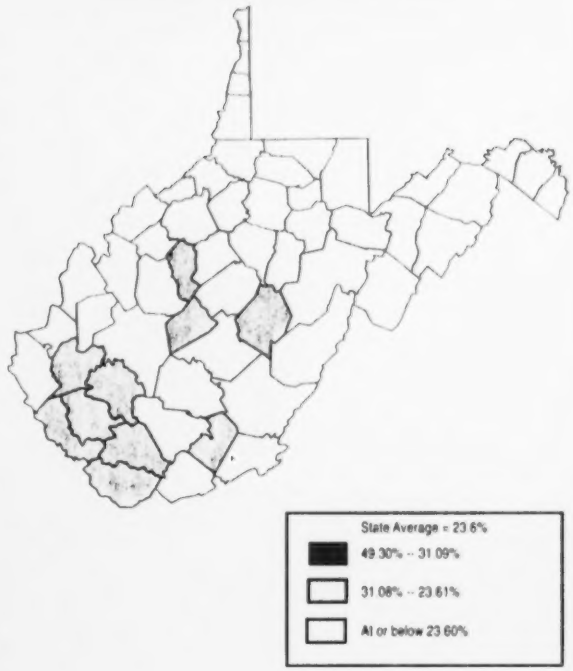
Teacher/Administrator Experience



Teacher/Administrator Experience

The teacher and administrator experience is the average number of years of experience for teachers and administrators in schools with a terminal grade. The length of teacher and administrator experience was associated with some high-achieving schools in the West Virginia Education Fund publication, *Achieving Despite Adversity*. The high-achieving schools the Education Fund studied were much more likely to have a higher average number of years of staff experience.

Education Level of Mothers

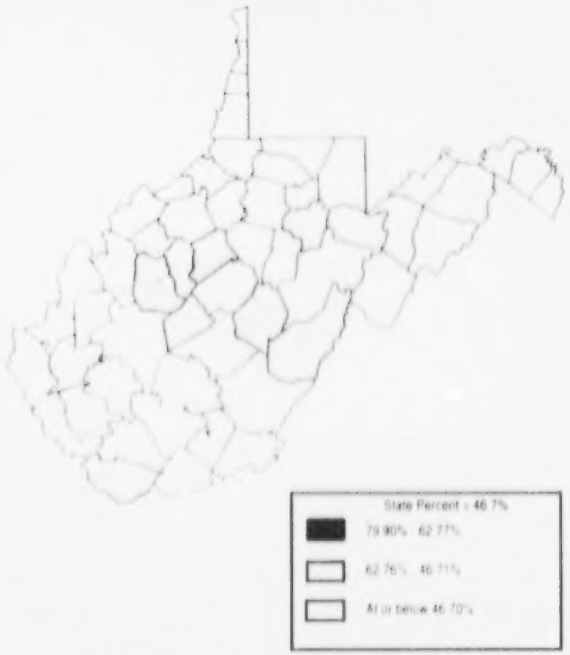


Percent Births To Mothers With Less Than A 12th Grade Education

The percent of births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education represents the percentage of all births to mothers who have less than a 12th grade education. A mother's educational level is one of the best predictors of a child's academic achievement. The state has made progress over the years in increasing the educational level of mothers, but more progress needs to be made.

Education and Children in Poverty

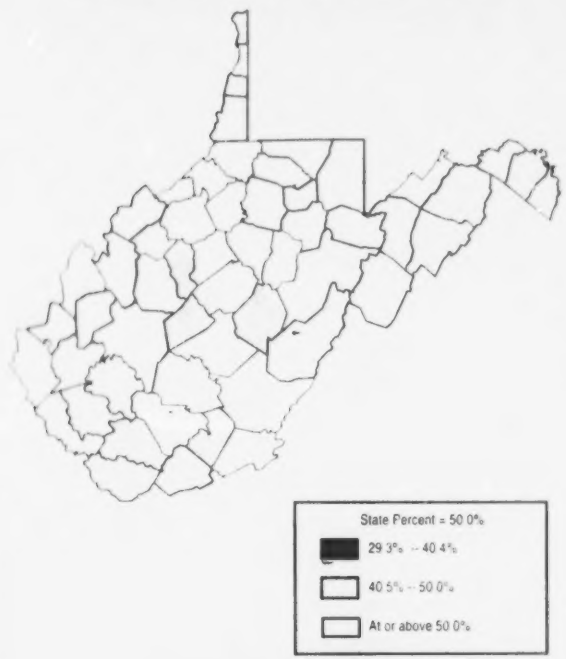
School Meal Services



Percent Children Approved for Free or Reduced School Meals (Grades K - 12)

This is the percent of all enrolled children in grades kindergarten through 12 who applied and were approved for free or reduced priced school meals. This measure is provided to give the reader an idea of which counties have high concentrations of low-income children. The U. S. Census does not provide an annual county-by-county figure on the percent of children in poverty, so KIDS COUNT uses this measure as a substitute. The depth of the poor and near poor throughout the state is extraordinary. If we are to embark upon a program to improve schools in districts with high concentrations of poverty, we could begin with those schools that have between 62 and 79 percent of its population receiving free and reduced-priced meals.

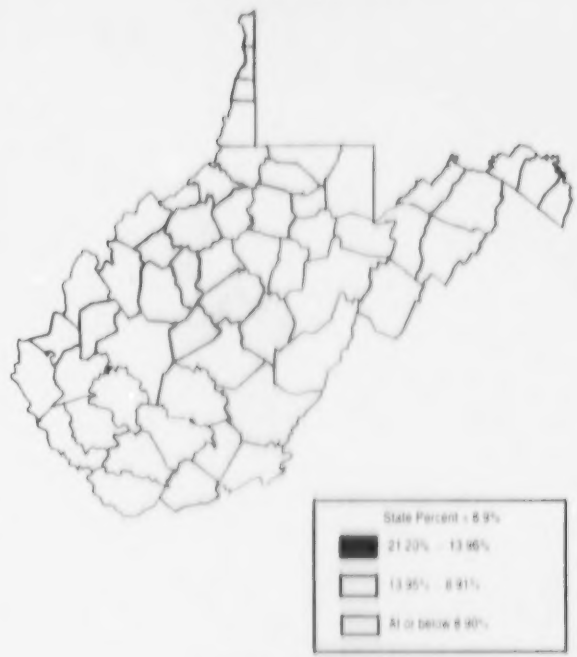
Employment to Population Ratio



Employment to Population Ratio

The employment to population ratio is the population 16 years old and older divided by the employed. The resultant number provides the percent of adults over 16 who are employed. The West Virginia employment to population ratio is 50. This ratio is the lowest in the nation. The national average is 62.9. This particular indicator was chosen to give a sense of employment variations within the state. The employment to population ratio is a very telling statistic because it says more clearly than any other measure that West Virginia's economic problem is the lack of jobs, particularly in the rural counties.

Unemployment



Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate is the number of people who are actively looking for work but are unemployed as a percentage of the civilian labor force. The state's unemployment rate is 8.9 percent. Nineteen of the state's counties have an unemployment rate below the state percent. With the exception of the Potomac Highlands area, the greatest unemployment appears in rural areas. (*West Virginia Economic Summary*, August 1996, "The Two West Virginias," Merrifield.) Only 45.2 percent of the persons 16 years of age and over in West Virginia's rural counties were employed in 1995. In the state's urban counties, 55.6 percent of this 16 plus population had jobs.

Status Of Children By Indicator

PERCENT LOW BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES

Low birth-weight babies are those babies weighing less than 2,500 grams, or 5.5 pounds, at birth. Low birth weight is associated with immediate and future risks to a newborn infant. Low birth-weight babies are 40 times more likely to die during the first month of life than normal weight babies. Infants of low birth weight account for approximately 60 percent of all infant deaths during the first year of life. Surviving low birth-weight infants, particularly those of very low birth weight, are about three times more likely to experience severe health problems. These problems are costly for children, their families, and our health and education programs.

One out of 13.7 babies in West Virginia is born a low birth-weight baby. There were 1,590 low birth-weight babies born in West Virginia in 1994 and 1,985 born in 1980. The percent of all West Virginia births in 1994 that were classified as low birth weight was 7.3 percent, an 8.1 percent increase over the 1980 rate of 6.8 percent. The national percent of low birth-weight babies in 1994 was 7.3 percent, the same as the state percent.

Babies most likely to be at risk for low birth weight are those born to teens, single or low-income mothers and also those less likely to receive early quality prenatal care. Reducing the number of low birth-weight babies will occur if we are able to reduce the number of teens and single low-income mothers having babies and to reduce the number of mothers who smoke and have poor nutrition or consume drugs and alcohol.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE
(per 1,000 live births)

Infant mortality refers to all deaths that occur to infants under one year of age. The infant mortality rate is regarded as a basic quality of life indicator for a community. It reflects the health of both the pregnant woman and the infant; it also reflects the condition in which a child lives during his first year of life and the parenting the child receives.

Over the last 14 years, the number of babies dying before their first birthday decreased. **In 1980, the number of infant deaths in West Virginia was 422; this number dropped to 186 in 1994. West Virginia's 1980 infant mortality rate of 14.4 decreased to 8.4 by 1994, a decrease of 41.5 percent. In 1994, one out of 118.8 infants born in West Virginia died before his/her first birthday.** The 1994 national infant mortality rate of 8.0 was lower than the 1994 West Virginia infant mortality rate.

The infant mortality rate was much higher for African-Americans than it was for whites in both 1980 and 1994. In 1980, the African-American rate was 25.0, and the white rate was 14.0; in 1994, the African-American rate was 15.0, and the white rate was 8.2. Between 1980 and 1994, the white rate decreased by 41.7 percent, and the African-American rate decreased by 40.1 percent. The difference *between* the white and African-American rates has remained relatively constant. In 1980, the African-American rate was 78.6 percent higher than the white rate, and in 1994, the African-American rate was 82.9 percent higher than the white rate.

West Virginia has made consistent progress over the decade in reducing the number of babies who die before their first birthday. The progress is the result of both medical technology and improved access to health care. Medical technology has contributed to the increased survival rates of low birth-weight babies who otherwise would have died. Improved access to health care has contributed to improve infant mortality rates. Programs for the poor, such as Medicaid, Right From The Start, WIC, and Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis & Treatment, have made health care access possible. All of these programs are in jeopardy because of federal funding cutbacks.

CHILD DEATH RATE
(ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)

The child death rate is the number of deaths from all causes of children between the ages of one and 14 per 100,000 children of the same age. The child death rate tells us about the risks to children and how much of this risk has resulted in death. Risks include health problems, exposure to hazardous conditions, preventable injuries, accidents and child abuse and neglect.

There were 92 child deaths in West Virginia in 1994; one out of 3,736.7 children died before their 14th birthday. The child death rate in 1994 was 26.8 per 100,000 children. This was a 36.1 percent improvement over the 1980 child death rate of 41.9; there were 178 child deaths in 1980. The 1994 national child death rate of 30.3 was higher than the 1994 West Virginia child death rate of 26.8.

The 1980 African-American death rate was 32.1 percent higher than the white child death rate. Cur-

Status Of Children By Indicator, continued

rently, the child death rate for African-Americans is 21.1 percent higher than the white child death rate. In 1980, the African-American rate was 51.4, and the white rate was 38.9. In 1994, the African-American rate was 37.9, and the white rate was 26.6. Overall, the white child death rate decreased by 31.7 percent over the 14-year period, and the African-American rate decreased by 26.3 percent.

PERCENT CHILDREN APPROVED FOR FREE AND REDUCED SCHOOL MEALS
(Grades K-12)

The percent of children approved for free and reduced meals provides school meals to children based on family income. Free meals are provided at 130 percent of poverty, and reduced-priced meals are provided when the family's income is between 130 and 185 percent of poverty. West Virginia KIDS COUNT uses this program as a core indicator as a measure of the percentage of "needy" children in each county. It is estimated that approximately 17 percent of the eligible do not apply for this program, so we believe the percentages provided undercount the number of needy children.

In 1995, 145,454 applications of school children in West Virginia were approved for free or reduced-priced school meals. This represents 46.7 percent of all school children in kindergarten through 12th grade. In 1995, one out of 2.1 children received free and reduced school meals.

The county serving the fewest children was Hancock at 29.8 percent. The county serving the highest number of children was McDowell at 79.9 percent.

CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT RATE
(per 100,000 children)

Children who are victims of child abuse and neglect may suffer lasting physical and emotional problems. While not conclusive, abused and neglected children are more likely to become child abusers themselves and have an increased chance of becoming runaways and juvenile delinquents. At a minimum, they need immediate treatment for physical injuries and emotional traumas. Sometimes they need to be removed from their home for protection.

In 1994, 1,643 new cases of child abuse and neglect were reported and substantiated for further investigation by child abuse authorities. In 1994, one child was abused or neglected for every 270 children who lived in our state. There were 370 cases of child abuse or neglect reported and substantiated for every 100,000 of West Virginia's children. This was an increase over the 1993 rate which was 314.

The state does not have a system which reports annual abuse and neglect data. The data used here is the very best available, but it does not represent an entire year of data nor does it seem that each county has reported (e.g. Wood and Wirt show no substantiated cases). We hope next year there will be a new system capable of accurately collecting abuse and neglect data.

TEEN BIRTH RATE
(ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)

The teen birth rate is the number of live births to female teens ages 15-19 years old per 1,000 female teens of the same age. The teen birth rate includes all births to both married and unmarried teenage girls.

In 1994, one out of 18.6 female teens ages 15-19 gave birth. There were 3,722 births to teens in West Virginia in 1994, a rate of 53.7 births per 1,000 female teens ages 15-19. In 1980, there were 5,921 babies born to teen mothers equaling a teen birth rate of 68.9. Since 1980, West Virginia's teen birth rate decreased by 20 percent. The 1994 national teen birth rate was 58.9, a rate slightly worse than West Virginia's rate.

The county with the lowest teen birth rate in 1994 was Monongalia at 20.9. The county with the highest teen birth rate was Clay with a rate of 86.9. From 1980 through 1994, 49 West Virginia counties lowered their teen birth rate. The teen birth rate has declined in the past 14 years, yet the percent of all births that are to teens remains roughly the same.

PERCENT BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED TEENS
(ages 10-19)

This indicator measures the percent of all births that are to teens ages 10-19 who are unmarried at the time of the baby's birth.

In 1994, 10.4 percent of all births in West Virginia were to unmarried teens, which translates into a ratio of one out of 9.6 births. The percent of ba-

bies born to unmarried teens has grown from 6 percent (1,751 births) of all births in 1980 to 10.4 percent (2,271 births) of all births in 1994. This was a 75 percent increase over the last 14 years. Nationally, the percent of births to unwed teens was 10, which was better than the state percent.

The African-American percent of births to unmarried teens was higher than the white percent of births to unmarried teens in both 1980 and 1994. In 1980, 23.1 percent of all births were to African-American unmarried teens, and the percent of all births to white unmarried teens was 5.3. In 1994, the percent of all births to African-American unmarried teens was 22.9, and the percent of all births to white unmarried teens was 10. Between 1980 and 1994, the white percent increased by 88.7, and the black percent decreased by 0.7. The difference *between* the white and African-American percent decreased over the 14 years. In 1980, the African-American percent of births to unmarried teens was 335.8 percent greater than the white rate, and in 1994, it was 129 percent greater.

Only one county improved on this indicator over the last 14 years. Fifty-four counties got worse. Tucker County had the lowest unmarried teen birth rate for 1994 (4.2 percent). In 1994, Logan County had the highest unmarried teen birth rate at 15.5 percent (81 births to unwed teens).

Experts suggest that teens having babies is a result of interrelated factors. Social and economic status and economic opportunity impact a teen's motivation for success in delaying child birth. Cultural, religious and family attitudes toward sexuality, contraception and family planning and acceptability of childbearing at an early age also exert a strong influence on teens. Public policy in the areas of education, economic development, jobs and family planning is likely to play a significant role as well. Teenagers need support and information that will give them the ability and the motivation to delay childbearing. They also need access to quality prenatal care if they do become pregnant and educational and support services once they begin parenting.

PERCENT HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

A high school dropout is one who leaves high school before graduation without transferring to another school. Children who do not complete high school are more likely to have health, economic and social problems. High school dropouts are less likely than high school graduates to find employment and have less earning potential than graduates. Dropping out of high school increases the risk for poverty. Families headed by high school dropouts are more likely to have incomes below the federal poverty level.

The number of high school dropouts in West Virginia in 1994 was 3,978, a rate of 16.2 percent. This is a slight increase over last year, which was 3,850, a rate of 15.7 percent. In 1994, one out of 6.2 seventh through 12th graders dropped out of high school. This is a 36.8 percent improvement over the 1980 rate of 25.6 percent (8,094 dropouts).

Between 1980 and 1994, the high school dropout rate improved in 51 of our 55 counties.

The progress West Virginia has made over the decade in reducing the number of high school dropouts is a function of a number of things. The State Board of Education monitors the high school dropout numbers. There is increasing recognition of the essential need for high school education to avoid unemployment and almost certain poverty. State government made education its central focus for the last eight years, and there has been a sense of urgency to keep children in school to complete their high school education. The enactment of legislation to revoke the driver's license of any 16-year-old who drops out of school has also been a motivation to stay in school. Community-based dropout prevention programs and business school partnerships have undoubtedly made a contribution. Whether it is the carrot or the stick that is working, our success in this area is encouraging.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASE RATE (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)

The juvenile delinquency case rate is the number of reported delinquency cases per 1,000 youths ages 10-19. The juvenile delinquency case rate reflects upon how well our families and communities care for their youth. It measures the risk of children and all members of the community.

West Virginia added 8,824 new cases to the juvenile justice system in 1994, a juvenile delinquency case rate of 26.9. This is a reduction from 1993 of 32.3. In 1994, one out of 3,718.1 juveniles had a delinquency case. Forty-three of our 55 counties have a juvenile delinquency case rate lower than the state rate.

West Virginia's delinquency rate consistently remains among the lowest in the nation. According to a 1995 report, *Delinquency Prevention Works*, pre-

Status Of Children By Indicator, continued

pared by the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, juvenile delinquency can be prevented. It requires a long-term investment in both law enforcement and prevention activities, and we know what to do and how to do it. **What works is prevention activity throughout childhood targeted to at-risk children.** Examples of prevention programs include health education, immunization, parent education; teaching reading; learning school readiness, and addressing learning disabilities; job training and employment assistance. These factors can prevent delinquency: community policing, safe and effective schools, strengthening families, and youth development programs.

TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE
(ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)

The teen violent death rate measures the rates of death for youths ages 15-19 from unintentional injuries, homicides or suicides.

Unintentional injuries, such as auto accidents, are the leading causes of teen deaths. In 1994, there were 106 violent deaths of 15-19-year-old teens per 100,000 teens. This is a death rate of 74.5 In 1994, one out of 1,342.7 teens died due to violence. Over the last 14 years, the teen violent death rate decreased from 87.5, 152 deaths in 1980, to 74.5 in 1994, a decrease of 14.8 percent. The 1992 national teen violent death rate (84.3) was higher than the 1994 West Virginia teen violent death rate (74.5).

The 1980 African-American teen violent death rate was 11.8 percent higher than the white teen violent death rate. By 1994, the teen violent death rate of African-American was 13.6 percent higher than the white teen violent death rate. In 1980, the African-American rate was 97.6, and the white rate was 87.3; in 1994, the African-American rate was 75.9, and the white rate was 66.8. Overall, the white teen violent death rate decreased by 23.4 percent over the 14 years, and the African-American rate decreased by 22.3 percent.

Research shows that when teens die violently, there are often significant gaps in the supports and opportunities that have been available to them. Efforts to involve teens in productive community activities, mental health services, substance abuse programs, organized after-school activities, support groups and mentor programs are often lacking. Communities that fill in these gaps can help West Virginia continue to improve in its overall reduction in the number of teens who die violently each year.

PERCENT BIRTHS TO MOTHERS WITH LESS THAN A 12TH GRADE EDUCATION

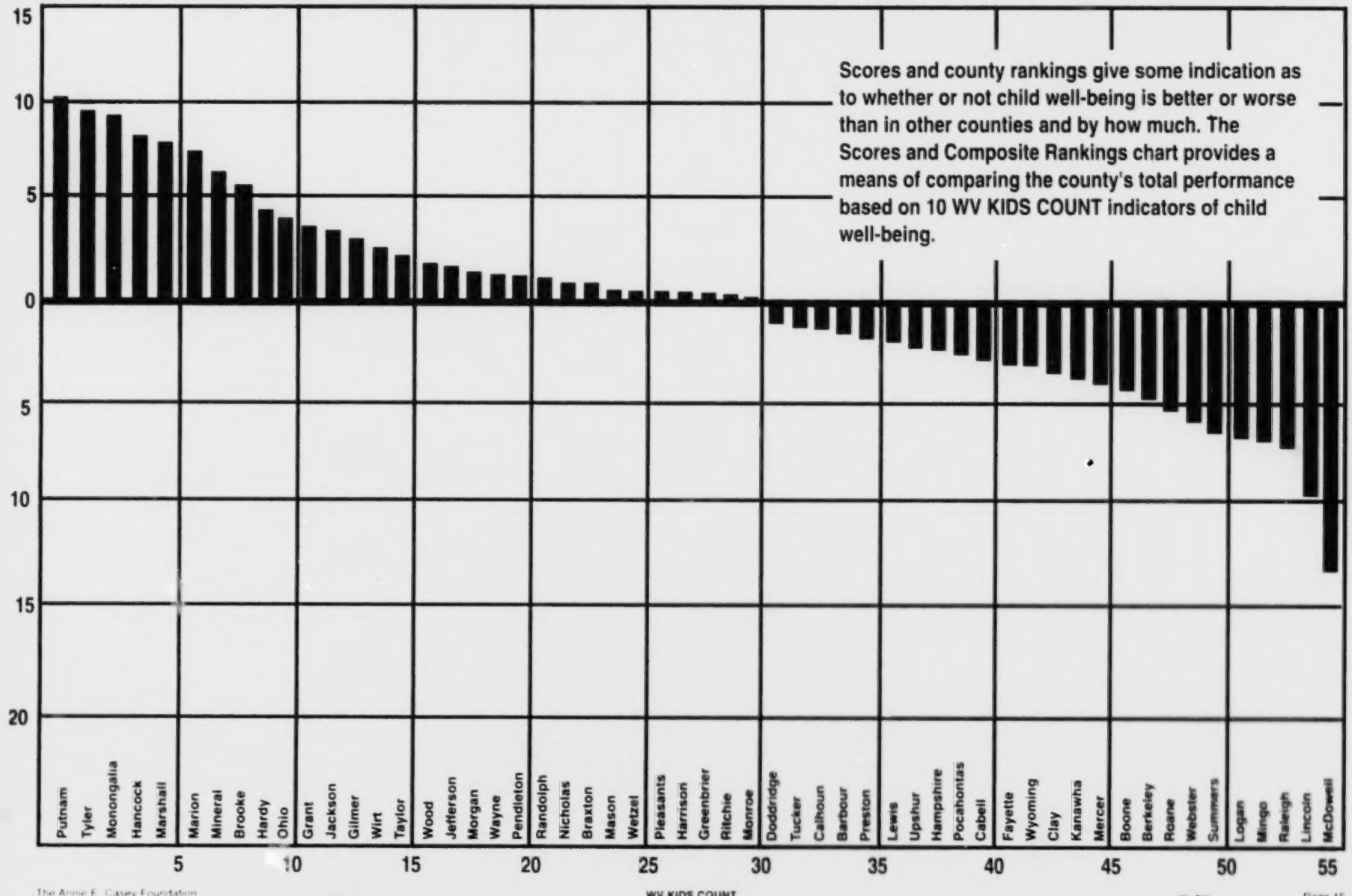
Parent education is the best predictor of child well-being, particularly concerning academic achievement. Nationwide, about one child in every five is born to a mother with less than a high school education. In West Virginia, about one child in every four is born to a mother with less than a high school education.

There were 5,145 births to mothers with less than a high school education in West Virginia in 1994. This represents almost one-quarter or 23.6 percent of all West Virginia births. In 1994, one out of 4.2 births were to mothers with less than a 12th grade education. In 1980, there were 9,248 births to mothers with less than a high school education, representing 31.5 percent of all births. Between 1980 and 1994, the percent of births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education improved by 24.9. In 1994, the national percent of births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education was 22.9, which was better than West Virginia.

The county with the best percent of births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education was Monongalia with a rate of 11.8 percent. McDowell County ranked worst on this indicator. Nearly one out of every two babies (50.8%) born in McDowell County was to a mother with less than a high school education. All 55 counties improved on this indicator over the 14-year span.

Counties where high numbers of children born to mothers with less than a high school education face a special challenge of educating more disadvantaged children and improving the educational level of all parents. This requires continuing education for adults, parent support and parent education programs, as well as job training and job placement. In West Virginia, there are some exemplary programs doing just this. Included among them are the Even Start programs.

WV KIDS COUNT Scores And Composite County Rankings



Scores and county rankings give some indication as to whether or not child well-being is better or worse than in other counties and by how much. The Scores and Composite Rankings chart provides a means of comparing the county's total performance based on 10 WV KIDS COUNT indicators of child well-being.

West Virginia

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Patterned bars indicate state percent change

Indicators	1980 Rate / %	1994 Rate / %	National Rate / * %
Percent low birth-weight babies	6.8%	7.3%	7.3%
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	14.4	8.4	8.0
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	41.9	26.8	30.3
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	52.8%	33.3%
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	46.7%	39.1%
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	370.4	NA
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	68.9	53.7	58.9
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	6.0%	10.4%	10.0%
Percent high school dropouts	25.6%	16.2%	NA
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	26.9	NA
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	87.5	74.5	84.3*
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	31.5%	23.6%	22.9%

Background Facts	1980	1994	Change
Total population	1,949,644	1,822,716	-6.5%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,814	$5,512	44.5%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	9.5%	17.1%	79.8%
Percent births with early prenatal care	67.4%	84.4%	25.2%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	316,192	256,169	-19.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	296,346	376,546	27.1%
Unemployment rate	9.4%	8.9%	-5.3%
Total population under age 18	559,636	429,450	-23.3%
Percent population under age 18	28.7%	23.6%	-17.9%
Percent minority population	3.8%	4.2%	9.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	4.2%	5.0%	18.9%

Background Facts	1980	1990	Change
Percent children in single-parent families	12.0%	17.4%	45.4%
Percent children in poverty	18.7%	26.2%	40.0%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$26,628	$25,602	-3.9%

Education & Poverty

This year's West Virginia KIDS COUNT Data Book, the 5th Annual Edition, focuses on education and children in poverty. We have chosen this focus because we believe the improvement of education in areas of high poverty is one of the critical factors to reduce welfare dependency and to prepare students to participate in tomorrow's economy.

WV Minority Profile

Indicator	Trend data: White			Trend data: African-American			Trend data: Other **		
	Year	Data	% Change	Year	Data	% Change	Year	Data	% Change
Percent low birth-weight babies	1980	6.5%	35.3%	1980	12.3%	41.6%	1980	7.2%	28.6%
	1994	4.2%	BETTER	1994	7.2%	BETTER	1994	5.1%	BETTER
Infant mortality rate* (per 1,000 live births)	1980	14.0	41.7%	1980	25.0	40.1%	1980	3.8	64.2%
	1994	8.2	BETTER	1994	15.0	BETTER	1994	6.2	WORSE
Child death rate* (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	1980	38.9	31.7%	1980	51.4	26.3%	1980	0.0	NM
	1994	26.6	BETTER	1994	37.9	BETTER	1994	0.0	
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	1980	5.3%	11.6%	1980	23.1%	41.1%	1980	1.8%	13.5%
	1994	5.9%	WORSE	1994	13.6%	BETTER	1994	1.6%	BETTER
Teen violent death rate* (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	1980	87.3	23.4%	1980	97.6	22.3%	1980	0.0	NM
	1994	66.8	BETTER	1994	75.9	BETTER	1994	65.0	
Percent children in poverty	1980	17.9%	41.9%	1980	34.1%	47.2%	1980	17.5%	25.7%
	1990	25.4%	Worse	1990	50.2%	Worse	1990	22.0%	Worse
Number of babies (ages 0-1)	1980	536,323	21.0%	1980	20,061	18.6%	1980	3,252	7.7%
	1990	423,744	Decrease	1990	16,329	Decrease	1990	3,504	Increase
Number of adults (ages 18 and up)	1980	1,338,428	2.7%	1980	44,990	11.2%	1980	6,590	23.7%
	1990	1,301,799	Decrease	1990	39,996	Decrease	1990	8,155	Increase

In this and previous Data Books, the 1990 figure is based on one year of data, and the most current year is based on an average of three years of data.
* The indicators that are followed by an asterisk on this page are based on an average of five years of data (1976-1980), and the most current year is based on an average of five years of data (1990-1994).

** Other includes Hispanics, American Indians, Eskimos, Aleuts, Asians, and Pacific Islanders.

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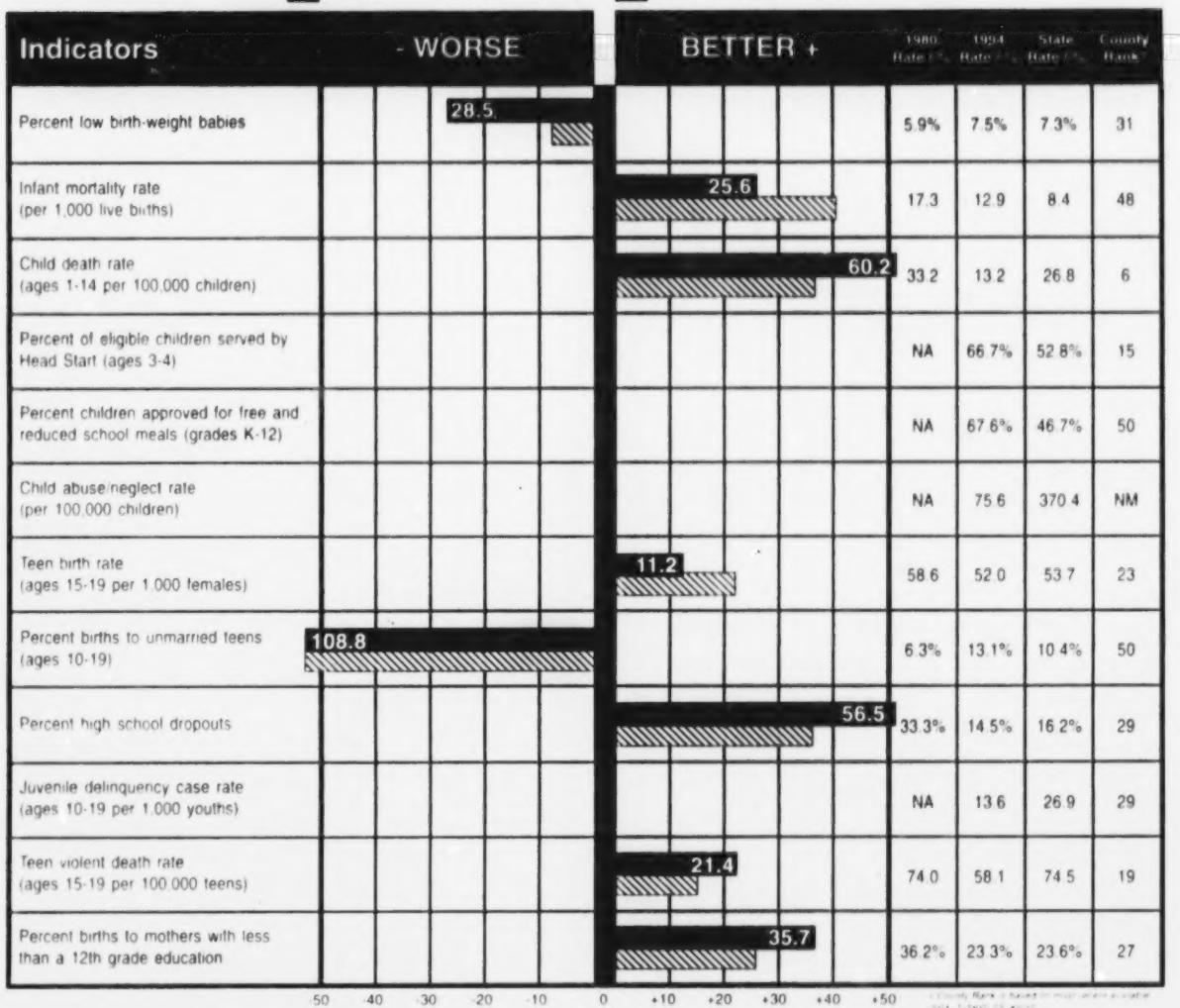
county profiles

Barbour County

Composite County Rank 34

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.

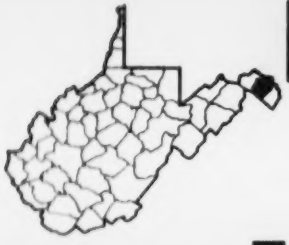

Indicators
- WORSE
BETTER +
1980 Rate / %
1994 Rate / %
State Rate / %
County Rank
Percent low birth-weight babies
28.5
5.9% 7.5% 7.3% 31
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)
25.6
17.3 12.9 8.4 48
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)
60.2
33.2 13.2 26.8 6
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)
NA 66.7% 52.8% 15
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)
NA 67.6% 46.7% 50
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)
NA 75.6 370.4 NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)
11.2
58.6 52.0 53.7 23
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)
108.8
6.3% 13.1% 10.4% 50
Percent high school dropouts
56.5
33.3% 14.5% 16.2% 29
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)
NA 13.6 26.9 29
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)
21.4
74.0 58.1 74.5 19
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education
35.7
36.2% 23.3% 23.6% 27
-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	16,639	16,104	-3.2%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,574	$5,606	56.8%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	14.0%	19.2%	37.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	66.3%	81.4%	22.7%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	2,527	1,516	-40.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,879	2,190	16.6%
Unemployment rate	8.7%	12.1%	39.1%
Total population under age 18	4,825	3,865	-19.9%
Percent population under age 18	29.0%	24.0%	-17.2%
Percent minority population	1.3%	2.7%	100.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.6%	3.1%	98.1%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	11.0%	17.4%	57.5%
Percent children in poverty	25.3%	36.7%	44.9%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$21,843	$19,106	-12.5%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	89.7%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.8	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	12.8 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	87.5%	94.6%

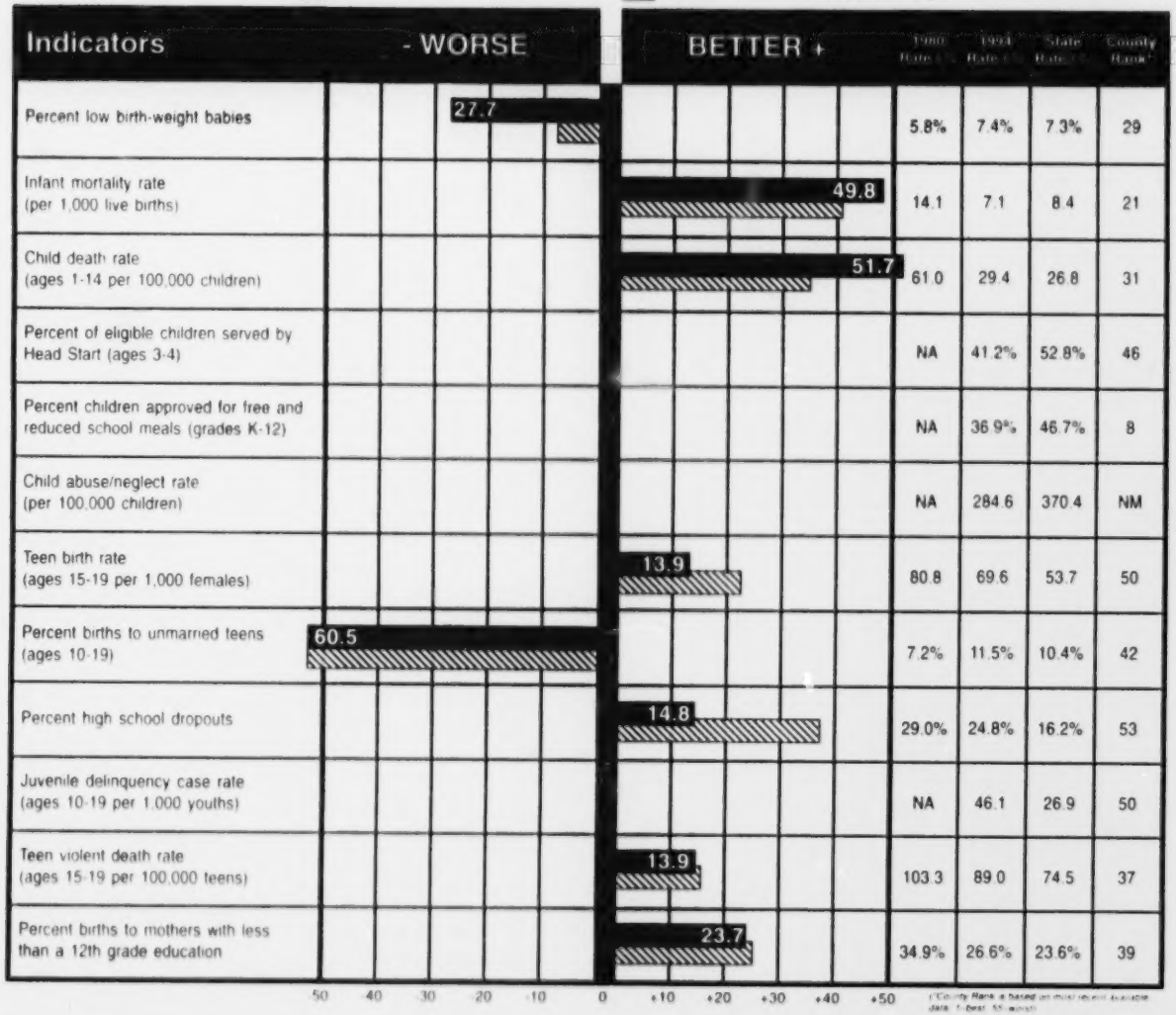


Berkeley County

Composite County Rank 47

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



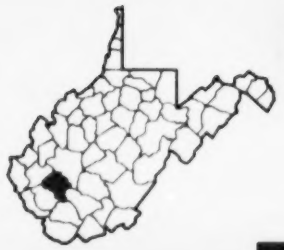
*County Rank is based on most recent available data. 1=best, 55=worst.

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	46,775	65,461	39.9%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,071	$5,248	28.9%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	7.4%	11.0%	47.5%
Percent births with early prenatal care	72.5%	84.5%	16.5%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	6,832	7,978	16.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	7,381	14,756	99.9%
Unemployment rate	8.8%	6.3%	-28.4%
Total population under age 18	13,776	16,310	18.4%
Percent population under age 18	29.5%	24.9%	-15.4%
Percent minority population	4.3%	5.2%	19.8%
Percent minority population under age 18	5.0%	6.1%	22.1%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	13.0%	17.7%	36.3%
Percent children in poverty	19.0%	16.1%	-15.3%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$28,052	$32,040	14.2%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.0%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.6	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	14.1 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	92.1%	94.6%

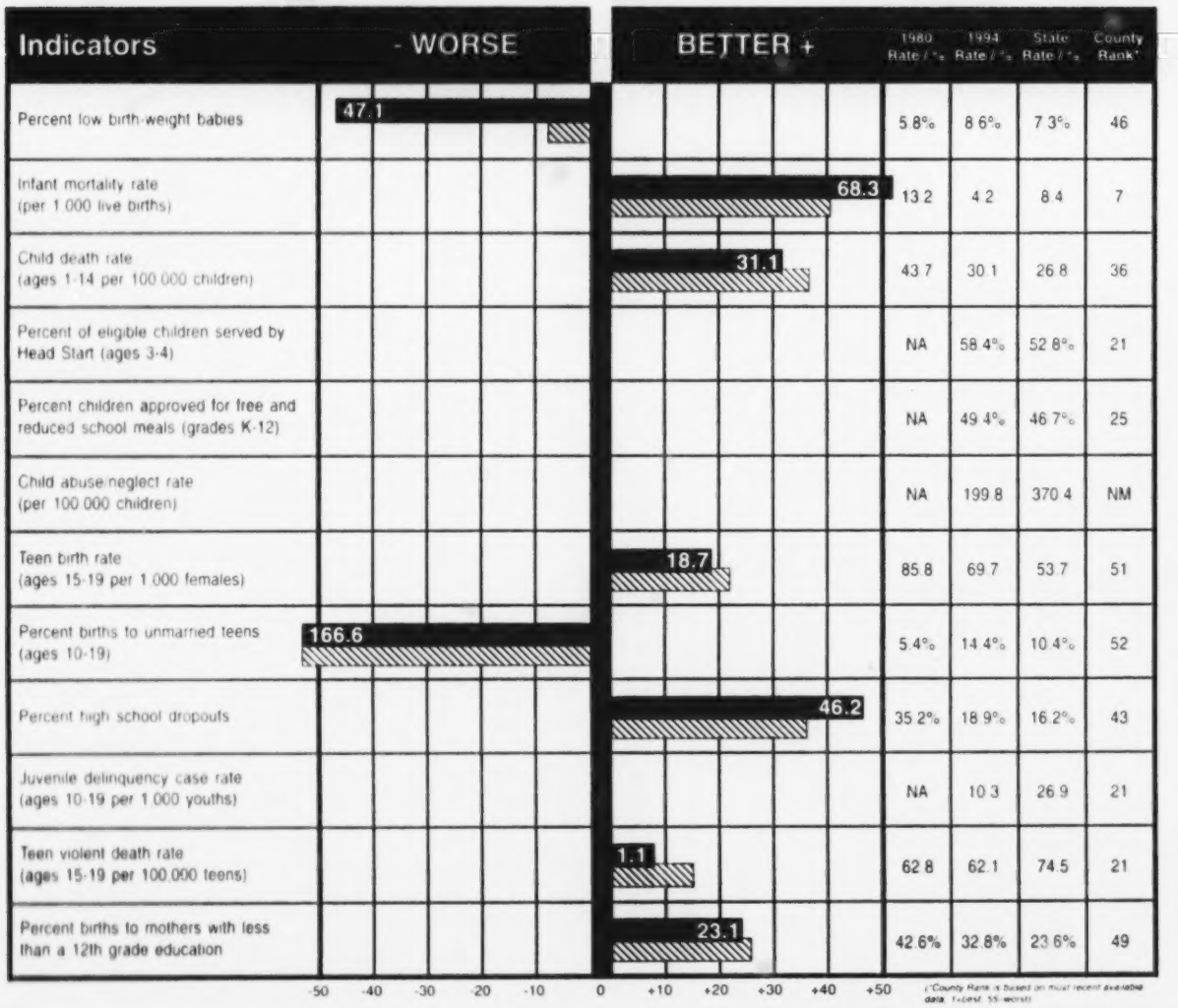


Boone County

Composite County Rank 46

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Indicators	1980 Rate / %	1994 Rate / %	State Rate / %	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	5.8%	8.6%	7.3%	46
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	13.2	4.2	8.4	7
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	43.7	30.1	26.8	36
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	58.4%	52.8%	21
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	49.4%	46.7%	25
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	199.8	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	85.8	69.7	53.7	51
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	5.4%	14.4%	10.4%	52
Percent high school dropouts	35.2%	18.9%	16.2%	43
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	10.3	26.9	21
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	62.8	62.1	74.5	21
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	42.6%	32.8%	23.6%	49

*County Rank is based on most recent available data. 1=best, 55=worst

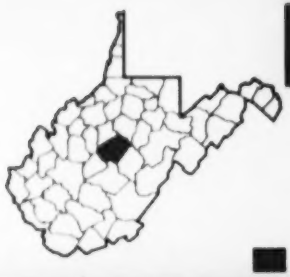
Background Facts

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	30,447	26,289	-13.7%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,048	$5,993	48.1%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	9.7%	23.2%	139.8%
Percent births with early prenatal care	64.3%	75.8%	18.0%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	7,172	4,332	-39.6%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,146	3,215	49.8%
Unemployment rate	7.0%	13.5%	92.9%
Total population under age 18	9,947	6,803	-31.6%
Percent population under age 18	32.7%	25.9%	-20.8%
Percent minority population	1.3%	1.2%	-2.3%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.2%	1.5%	23.4%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.8%	16.3%	51.5%
Percent children in poverty	18.1%	34.7%	91.5%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$28,412	$21,221	-25.3%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.3%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.2	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	13.2 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	95.8%	94.6%

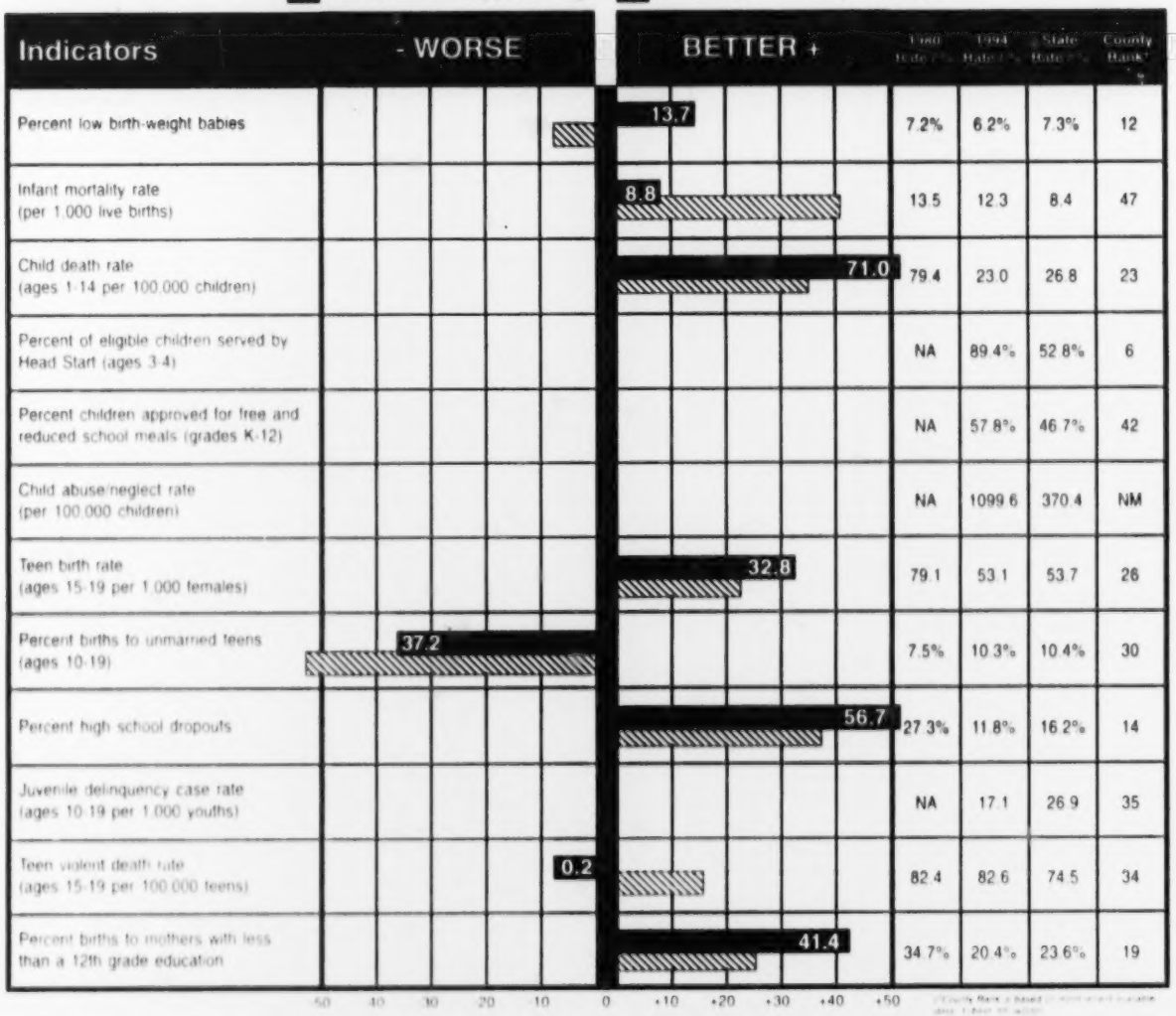


Braxton County

Composite County Rank 23

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.


Indicators
- WORSE
BETTER +
Percent low birth-weight babies
13.7
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)
8.8
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)
71.0
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)
32.8
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)
37.2
Percent high school dropouts
56.7
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)
0.2
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education
41.4
-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50

Indicators	1980 Rate	1994 Rate	State Rate	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	7.2%	6.2%	7.3%	12
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	13.5	12.3	8.4	47
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	79.4	23.0	26.8	23
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	89.4%	52.8%	6
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	57.8%	46.7%	42
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	1099.6	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	79.1	53.1	53.7	26
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	7.5%	10.3%	10.4%	30
Percent high school dropouts	27.3%	11.8%	16.2%	14
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	17.1	26.9	35
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	82.4	82.6	74.5	34
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	34.7%	20.4%	23.6%	19

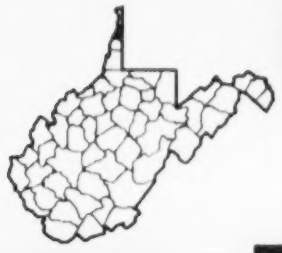
*County Rank is based on rates of change, 1 = best, 55 = worst

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	13,894	13,170	-5.2%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,044	$5,497	35.9%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	10.7%	19.8%	84.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	67.8%	93.6%	38.0%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,112	1,118	0.5%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,545	2,471	59.9%
Unemployment rate	16.4%	15.6%	-4.9%
Total population under age 18	4,005	3,235	-19.2%
Percent population under age 18	28.8%	24.6%	-14.8%
Percent minority population	0.7%	0.9%	33.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.7%	1.4%	92.1%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	12.7%	15.5%	22.8%
Percent children in poverty	27.7%	30.2%	9.1%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$18,572	$20,365	9.7%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	90.9%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	14.4	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	18.8 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	94.6%	94.6%

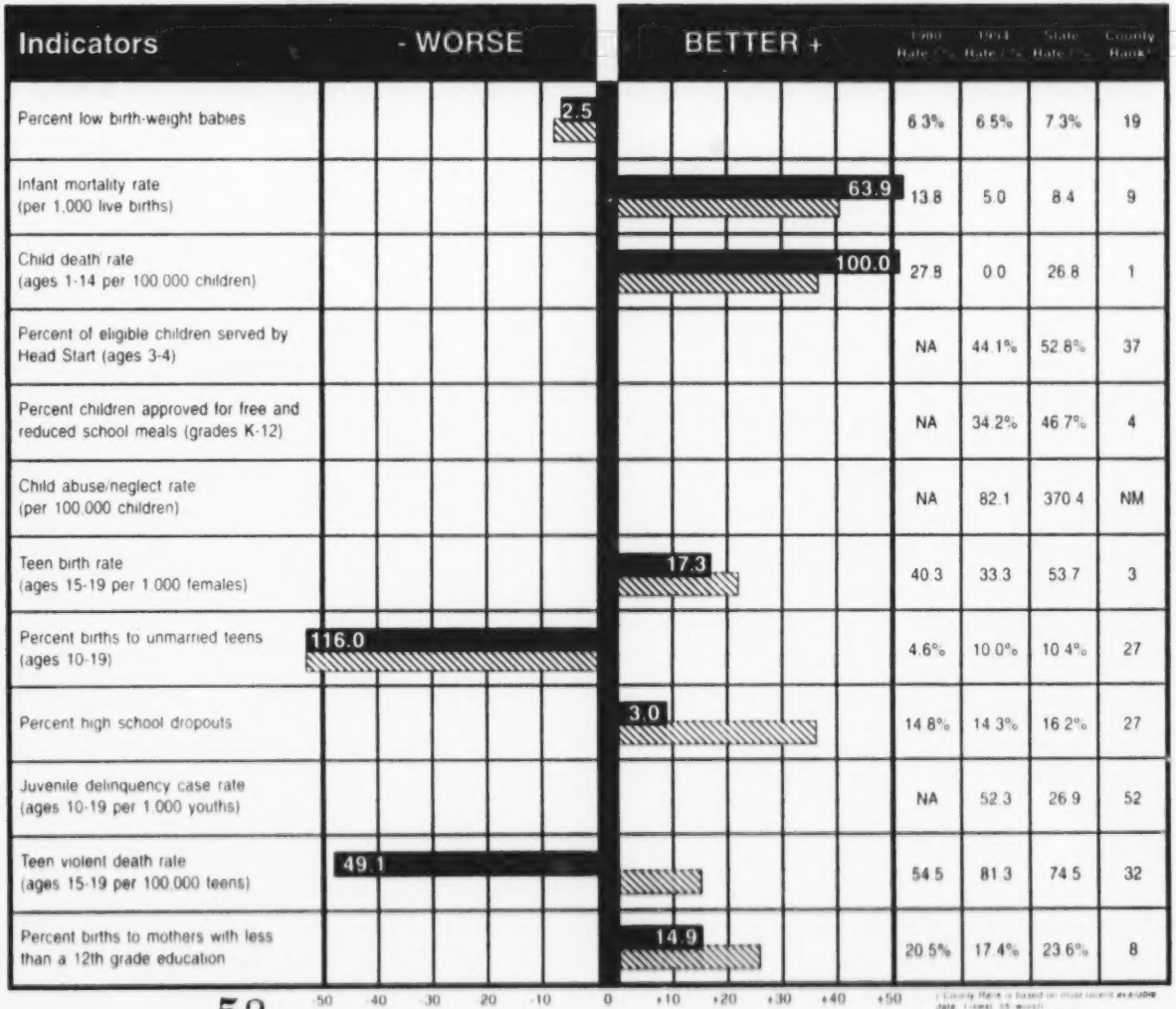


Brooke County

Composite County Rank 8

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on most recent available data (rated 55 worst)

Background Facts

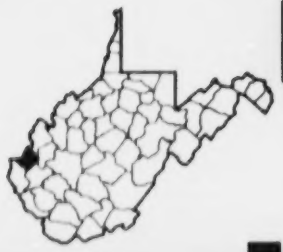
Background Facts	1980	1994	Change
Total population	31,117	26,717	-14.1%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,736	$5,818	55.7%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.2%	12.7%	54.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	80.5%	84.9%	5.5%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	5,463	4,511	-17.4%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	3,380	4,447	31.6%
Unemployment rate	9.8%	8.3%	-15.3%
Total population under age 18	8,496	5,758	-32.2%
Percent population under age 18	27.3%	21.6%	-21.1%
Percent minority population	1.0%	1.4%	35.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.9%	1.6%	83.4%

Background Facts

Background Facts	1980	1990	Change
Percent children in single-parent families	11.4%	14.2%	24.5%
Percent children in poverty	13.0%	17.2%	32.3%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$34,126	$31,407	-8.0%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.7%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.0	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	20.0 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	101.3%	94.6%

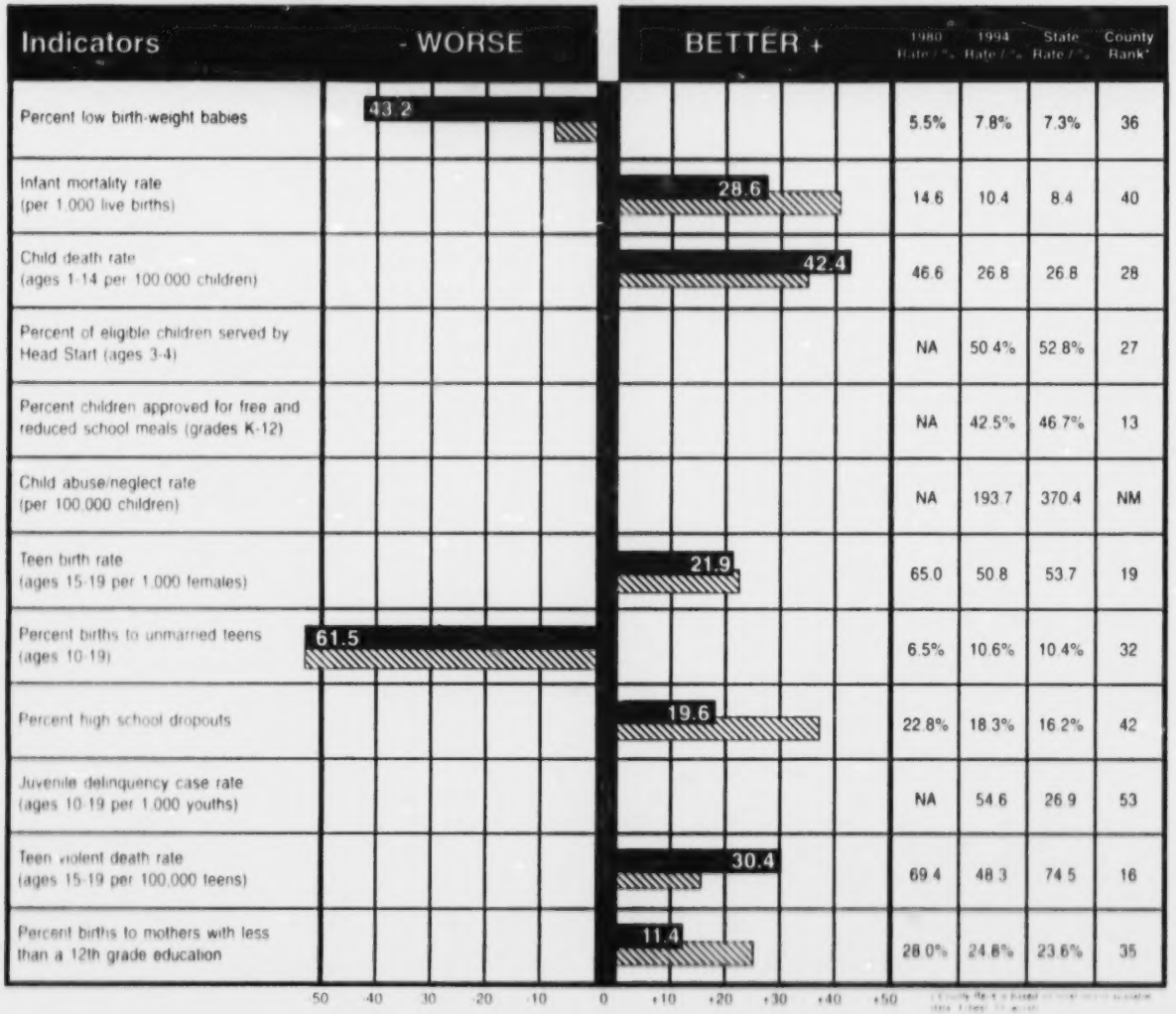


Cabell County

Composite County Rank 40

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change | Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

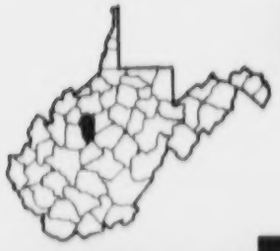
	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	106,835	96,800	-9.4%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,855	$5,996	55.5%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	10.5%	18.8%	78.5%
Percent births with early prenatal care	68.3%	91.5%	34.0%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	22,979	15,630	-32.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	26,086	33,463	28.3%
Unemployment rate	9.3%	7.8%	-16.1%
Total population under age 18	27,193	20,108	-26.1%
Percent population under age 18	25.5%	20.8%	-18.4%
Percent minority population	4.9%	5.3%	9.6%
Percent minority population under age 18	5.7%	6.9%	22.6%

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	15.4%	21.0%	36.5%
Percent children in poverty	16.8%	24.8%	48.0%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$27,288	$28,090	2.9%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.1%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.2	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	17.0 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	90.9%	94.6%

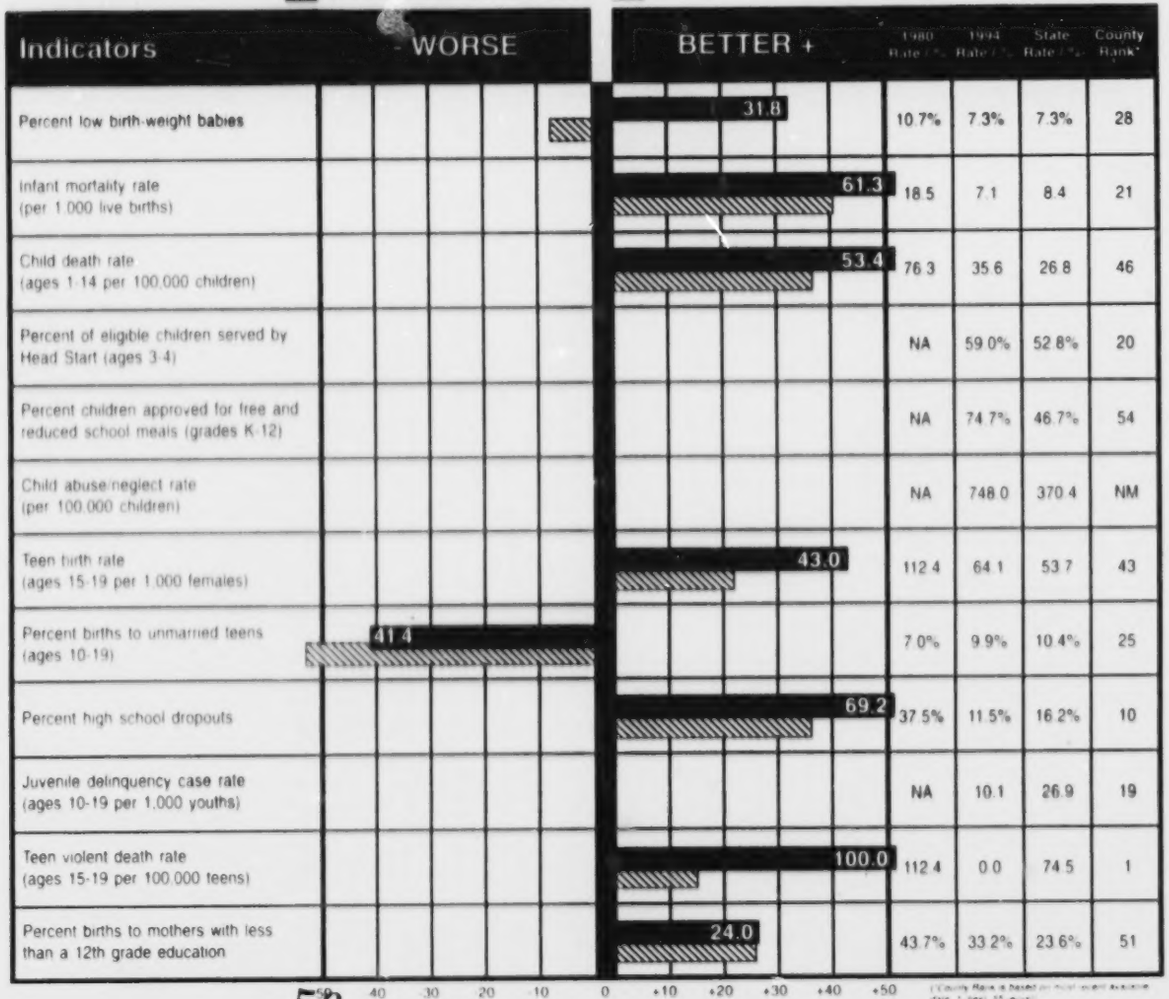


Calhoun County

Composite County Rank 33

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change | Patterned bars indicate state percent change

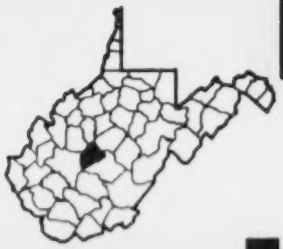


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	8,250	7,937	-3.8%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,341	$5,707	31.5%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	12.7%	20.8%	64.6%
Percent births with early prenatal care	77.1%	84.0%	8.9%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,009	1,211	20.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	668	774	15.9%
Unemployment rate	15.0%	21.2%	41.3%
Total population under age 18	2,380	2,044	-14.1%
Percent population under age 18	28.8%	25.8%	-10.7%
Percent minority population	0.8%	0.9%	18.8%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.9%	NM

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	13.2%	19.2%	45.7%
Percent children in poverty	34.7%	37.1%	7.0%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$17,837	$17,671	-0.9%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	89.9%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.7	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	14.6 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	97.8%	94.6%



Clay County

Composite County Rank 43

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change | Patterned bars indicate state percent change

Indicators	1980 Rate	1994 Rate	State Rate	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	7.2%	8.0%	7.3%	41
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	21.7	2.9	8.4	3
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	20.4	25.8	26.8	24
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	71.4%	52.8%	11
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	72.5%	46.7%	52
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	569.9	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	110.9	86.9	53.7	55
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	9.2%	12.9%	10.4%	48
Percent high school dropouts	37.3%	11.5%	16.2%	10
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	5.4	26.9	8
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	201.5	23.6	74.5	6
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	49.2%	31.8%	23.6%	46

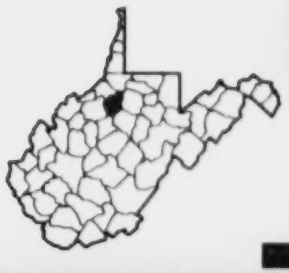
*County Rank is based on most recent available data. Lower = worst.

Background Facts	1980	1994	Change
Total population	11,265	10,210	-9.4%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,421	$5,444	59.1%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	14.0%	26.6%	90.2%
Percent births with early prenatal care	58.2%	81.6%	40.2%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	530	728	37.4
Total jobs in low-paying industries	525	719	37.0%
Unemployment rate	15.7%	15.3%	-2.5%
Total population under age 18	3,876	2,910	-24.9%
Percent population under age 18	34.4%	28.5%	-17.2%
Percent minority population	0.2%	0.3%	74.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.2%	NM

Background Facts	1980	1990	Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.1%	17.6%	74.2%
Percent children in poverty	37.4%	48.4%	29.4%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$17,322	$16,130	-6.9%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	94.2%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	15.5	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	13.7 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	90.3%	94.6%

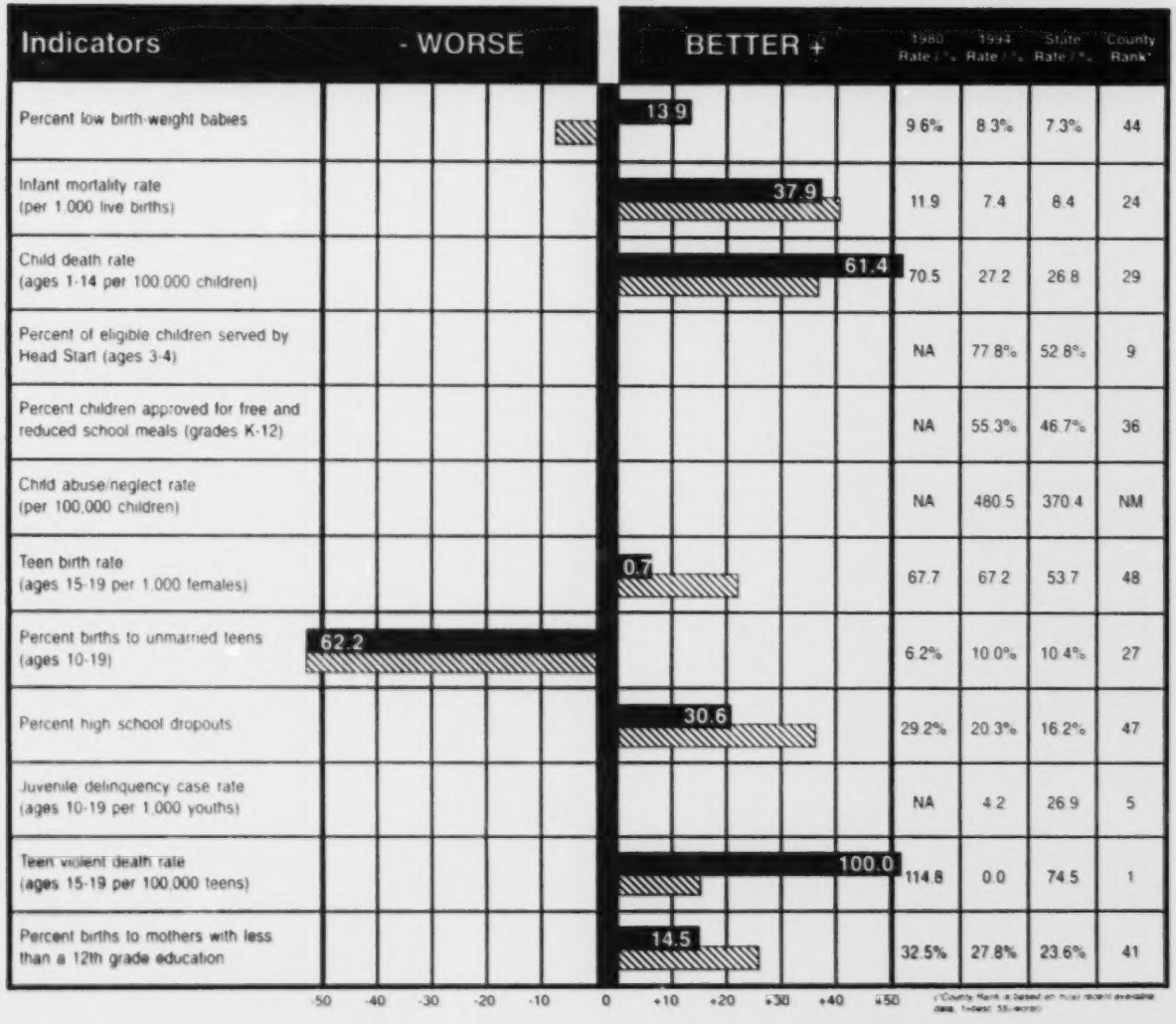


Doddridge County

Composite County Rank 31

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



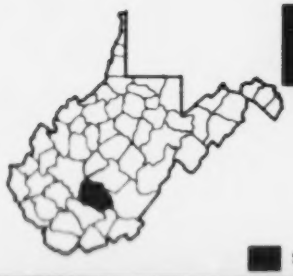
*County Rank is based on most recent available data, 1 = best, 55 = worst

Background Facts	1980	1990	Change
Total population	7,433	7,291	-1.9%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,191	$5,890	40.5%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	9.5%	18.0%	88.2%
Percent births with early prenatal care	77.5%	83.6%	8.0%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	650	825	26.9%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	413	516	24.9%
Unemployment rate	8.5%	9.2%	8.2%
Total population under age 18	2,281	1,851	-18.9%
Percent population under age 18	30.7%	25.4%	-17.3%
Percent minority population	0.4%	0.7%	92.6%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	1.0%	NM

Background Facts	1980	1990	Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.3%	13.3%	29.1%
Percent children in poverty	27.5%	26.2%	-4.9%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$18,972	$19,830	4.5%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.4%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.5	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.2 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	90.1%	94.6%



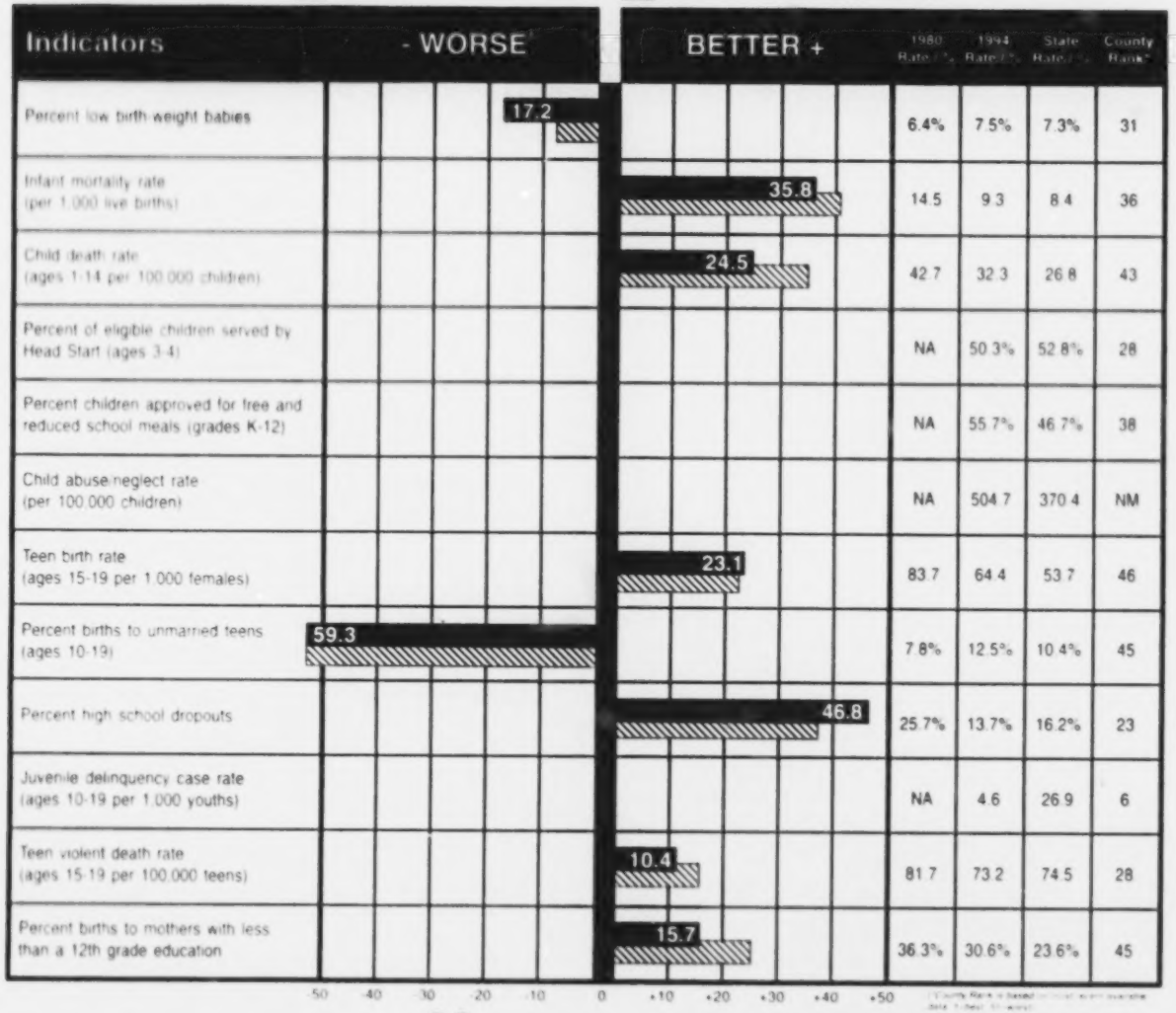
Fayette County

Composite County Rank 41

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

Indicators	1980 Rate	1994 Rate	State Rate % Change	County Rank*
Percent low birth weight babies	6.4%	7.5%	7.3%	31
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	14.5	9.3	8.4	36
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	42.7	32.3	26.8	43
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	50.3%	52.8%	28
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	55.7%	46.7%	38
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	504.7	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	83.7	64.4	53.7	46
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	7.8%	12.5%	10.4%	45
Percent high school dropouts	25.7%	13.7%	16.2%	23
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	4.6	26.9	6
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	81.7	73.2	74.5	28
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	36.3%	30.6%	23.6%	45

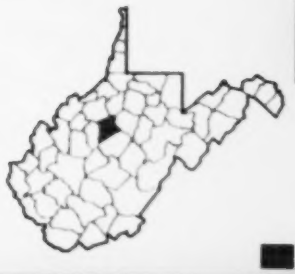


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	57,863	48,323	-16.5%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,488	$5,429	55.7%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	14.3%	23.0%	61.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	53.2%	83.2%	56.5%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	5,599	4,755	-15.1%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	6,126	7,710	25.9%
Unemployment rate	14.2%	12.0%	-15.5%
Total population under age 18	17,154	11,607	-32.3%
Percent population under age 18	29.6%	24.0%	-19.0%
Percent minority population	7.9%	7.3%	-8.1%
Percent minority population under age 18	8.3%	8.0%	-4.2%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	13.0%	19.4%	49.5%
Percent children in poverty	22.4%	34.0%	51.5%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$23,388	$20,848	-10.9%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.3%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	18.0	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.2 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	96.8%	94.6%

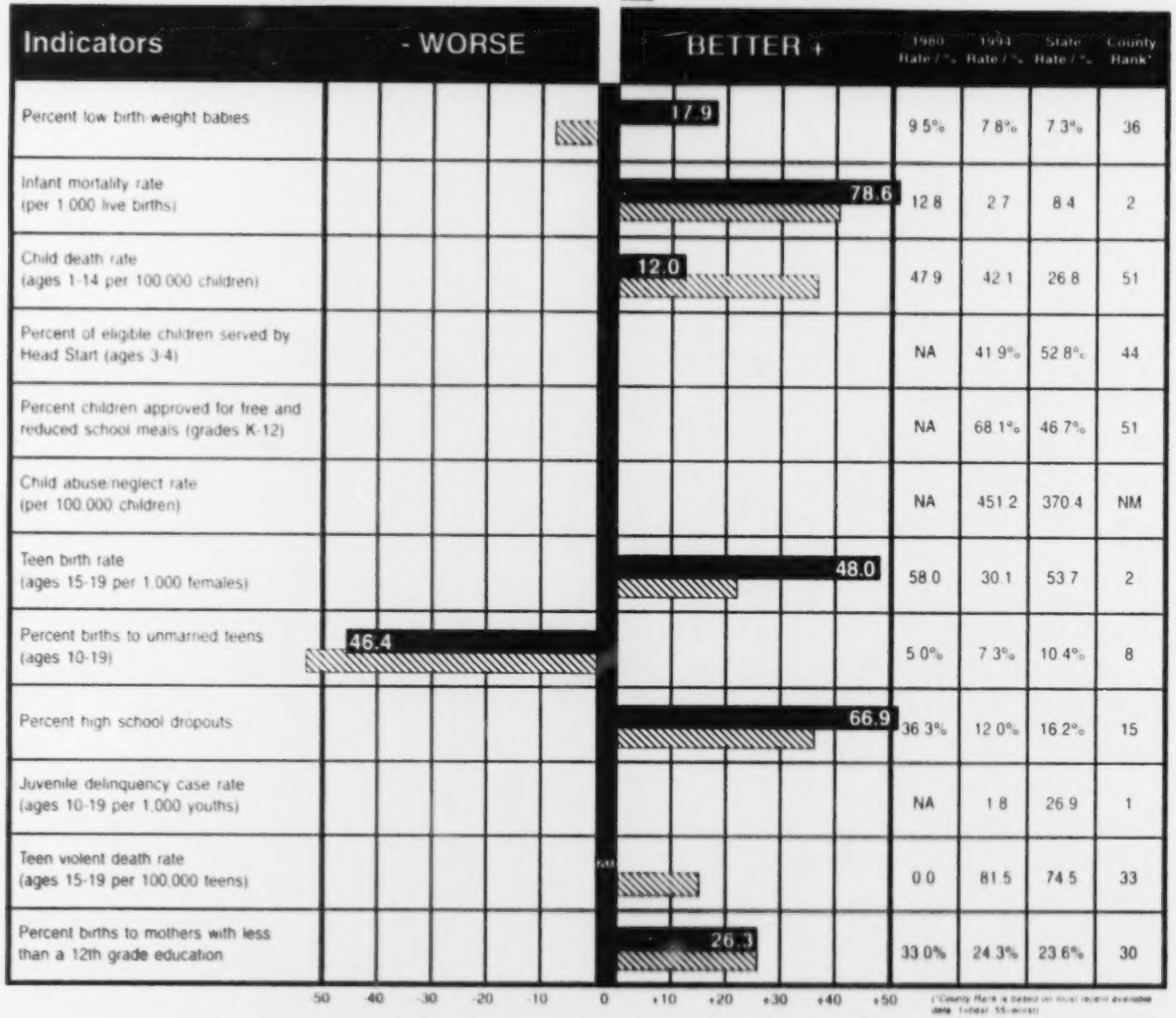


Gilmer County

Composite County Rank 13

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on most recent available data (ranked 55=worst)

Background Facts

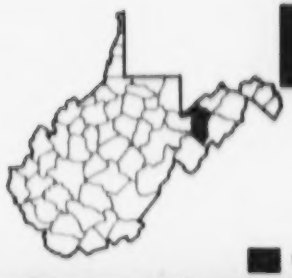
	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	8,334	7,465	-10.4%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,934	$5,726	45.5%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	9.8%	19.6%	100.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	77.2%	87.4%	13.3%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,079	1,138	5.5%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	617	855	38.6%
Unemployment rate	7.5%	9.8%	30.7%
Total population under age 18	2,262	1,643	-27.4%
Percent population under age 18	27.1%	22.0%	-18.9%
Percent minority population	0.9%	1.3%	40.3%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.4%	0.8%	123.7%

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.5%	15.8%	50.1%
Percent children in poverty	20.8%	40.7%	95.7%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$18,688	$16,994	-9.1%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	93.4%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.2	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.0 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	93.4%	94.6%



Grant County

Composite County Rank 11

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

Indicators	- WORSE / BETTER +	1980 Rate %	1994 Rate %	State Rate %	County Rank
Percent low birth weight babies	25.0	5.1%	6.4%	7.3%	16
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	42.5	10.2	5.9	8.4	14
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	60.6	50.5	19.9	26.8	19
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)		NA	108.8%	52.8%	3
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)		NA	56.1%	46.7%	40
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)		NA	567.3	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	26.6	72.3	53.0	53.7	25
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	75.4	4.6%	8.1%	10.4%	13
Percent high school dropouts	61.8	21.2%	8.1%	16.2%	3
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)		NA	8.0	26.9	15
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	24.1	160.7	122.0	74.5	49
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	18.9	29.8%	24.1%	23.6%	29

-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50

(County Rank is based on rank of 55 counties (rank 1 best, 55 worst))

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	10,210	10,927	7.0%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,795	$5,073	5.8%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	7.3%	6.3%	-14.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	82.1%	90.1%	9.8%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	2,918	2,876	-1.4%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,146	1,734	51.3%
Unemployment rate	7.8%	11.1%	42.3%
Total population under age 18	3,117	2,624	-15.8%
Percent population under age 18	30.5%	24.0%	-21.3%
Percent minority population	1.5%	1.7%	14.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.3%	1.9%	41.4%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	6.1%	15.0%	83.8%
Percent children in poverty	26.0%	16.2%	-37.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$20,474	$25,327	23.7%

Education Indicators

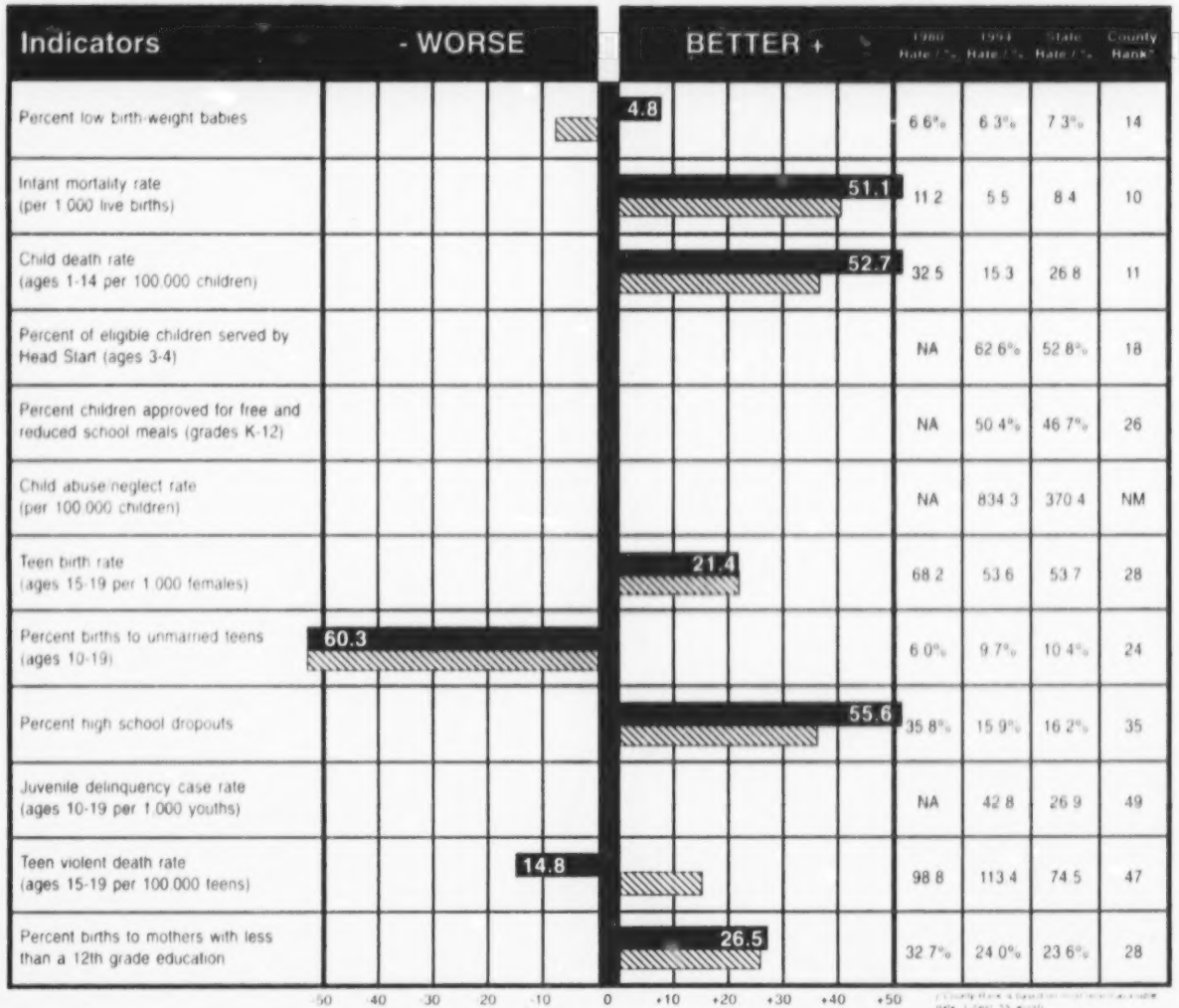
Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	93.4%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	15.5	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.3 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	96.2%	94.6%

Greenbrier County

Composite County Rank 28

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

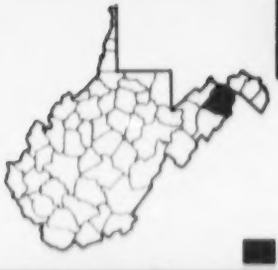


Background Facts	1980*	1994	% Change
Total population	37,665	35,416	-6.0%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,942	$4,633	17.5%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	5.6%	11.5%	104.6%
Percent births with early prenatal care	53.5%	85.0%	59.0%
Total jobs in high paying industries	4,195	4,107	-2.1%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	7,014	9,558	36.3%
Unemployment rate	11.7%	16.0%	36.8%
Total population under age 18	10,666	8,018	-24.8%
Percent population under age 18	28.3%	22.6%	-20.1%
Percent minority population	4.4%	4.4%	0.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	4.8%	4.9%	3.9%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	11.6%	17.6%	51.7%
Percent children in poverty	16.4%	23.8%	44.9%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$23,125	$23,819	3.0%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	93.5%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	15.3	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	17.4 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	104.0%	94.6%



Hampshire County

Composite County Rank 38

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

Indicators	- WORSE / BETTER +	1980 Rate / %	1994 Rate / %	State Rate / %	County Rank*
Percent low birth weight babies	27.5	6.2%	7.9%	7.3%	40
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	4.0	8.1	7.8	8.4	26
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	68.1	17.5	29.4	26.8	31
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)		NA	68.7%	52.8%	12
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)		NA	52.7%	46.7%	31
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)		NA	523.9	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	9.0	58.1	63.4	53.7	40
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-17)	118.5	3.8%	8.2%	10.4%	14
Percent high school dropouts	3.8	21.9%	22.7%	16.2%	51
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)		NA	7.6	26.9	13
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	44.4	200.4	111.5	74.5	45
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	22.3	29.2%	22.7%	23.6%	26

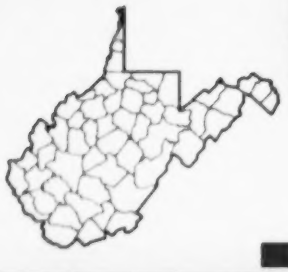
-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	14,867	18,147	22.1%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,728	$4,932	32.3%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.4%	12.7%	51.5%
Percent births with early prenatal care	83.4%	82.7%	-0.9%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,434	1,459	1.7%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,527	2,736	79.2%
Unemployment rate	7.0%	5.3%	-24.3%
Total population under age 18	4,593	4,574	-0.4%
Percent population under age 18	30.9%	25.2%	-18.4%
Percent minority population	1.0%	1.5%	41.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.1%	1.8%	72.1%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	9.9%	14.0%	40.9%
Percent children in poverty	20.0%	21.1%	5.4%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$22,377	$24,164	8.0%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.0%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	14.1	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.3 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	92.9%	94.6%

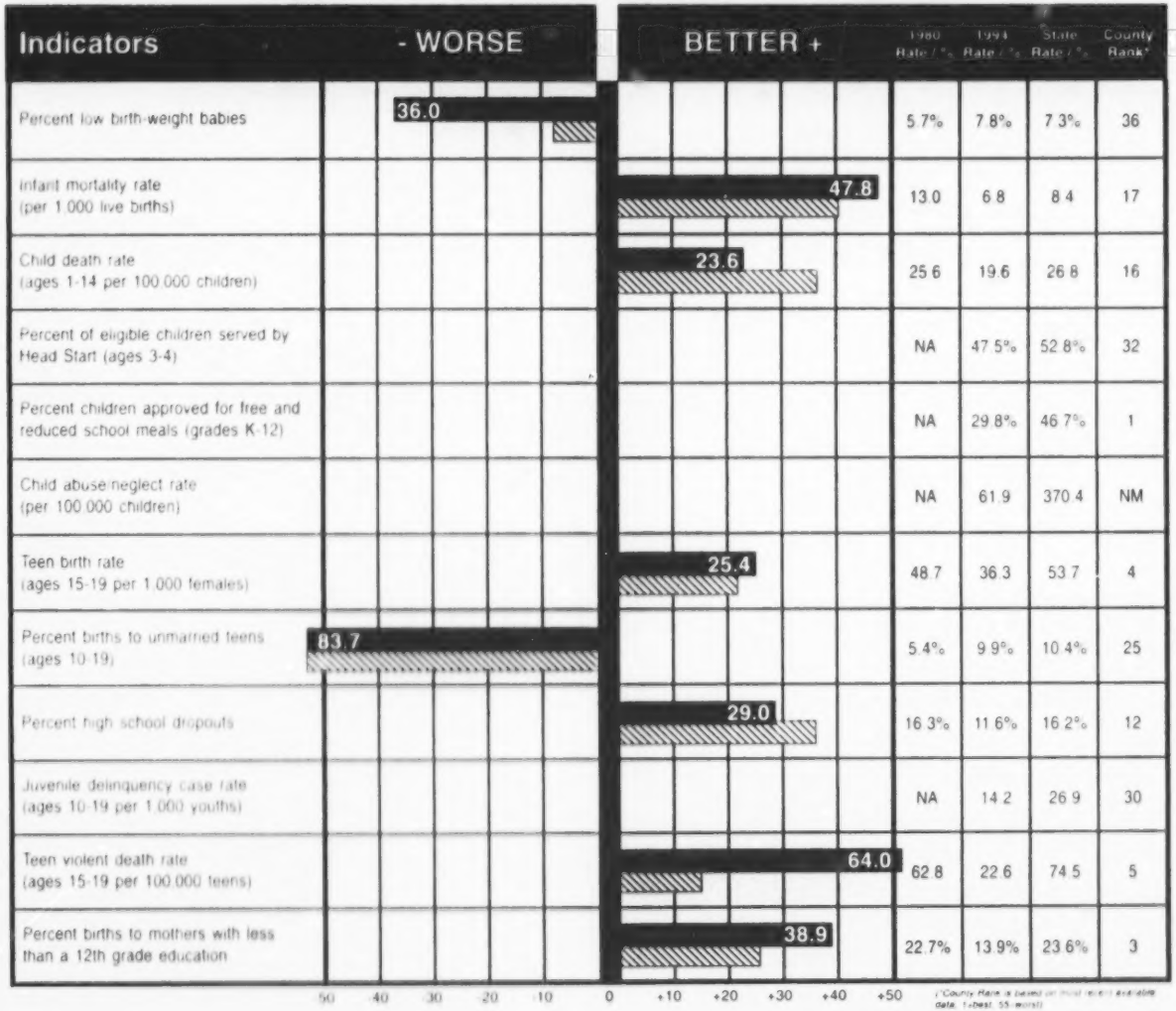


Hancock County

Composite County Rank 4

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

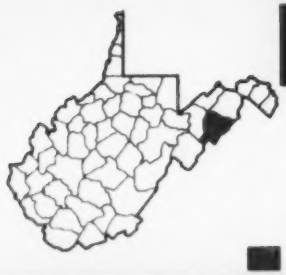

Indicators
- WORSE
BETTER +
1980 Rate / %
1994 Rate / %
State Rate / %
County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies
36.0
5.7% 7.8% 7.3% 36
infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)
47.8
13.0 6.8 8.4 17
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)
23.6
25.6 19.6 26.8 16
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)
NA 47.5% 52.8% 32
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)
NA 29.8% 46.7% 1
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)
NA 61.9 370.4 NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)
25.4
48.7 36.3 53.7 4
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)
83.7
5.4% 9.9% 10.4% 25
Percent high school dropouts
29.0
16.3% 11.6% 16.2% 12
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)
NA 14.2 26.9 30
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)
64.0
62.8 22.6 74.5 5
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education
38.9
22.7% 13.9% 23.6% 3
-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50
(*County Rank is based on most recent available data, 1=best, 55=worst)

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	40,418	34,807	-13.9%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,649	$5,868	52.5%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	7.5%	13.5%	80.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	75.9%	91.5%	20.6%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	15,223	9,386	-38.3%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	6,665	7,643	14.7%
Unemployment rate	8.3%	8.3%	0.0%
Total population under age 18	11,311	7,631	-32.5%
Percent population under age 18	28.0%	21.9%	-21.7%
Percent minority population	3.1%	3.6%	18.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	3.2%	4.2%	28.4%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	11.8%	17.2%	46.0%
Percent children in poverty	9.3%	18.1%	95.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$36,466	$30,576	-16.2%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	90.9%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.1	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	18.1 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	89.4%	94.6%



Hardy County

Composite County Rank 9

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change | Patterned bars indicate state percent change

Indicators	- WORSE / BETTER +	1980 Rate	1994 Rate	State Rate	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	11.8	5.0%	4.4%	7.3%	1
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	31.2	12.3	8.4	8.4	30
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	5.1	19.0	20.0	26.8	20
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)		NA	158.1%	52.8%	1
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)		NA	47.1%	46.7%	20
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)		NA	343.8	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	7.8	62.8	57.9	53.7	35
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	27.1	6.8%	8.6%	10.4%	17
Percent high school dropouts	45.2	23.5%	12.9%	16.2%	18
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)		NA	14.5	26.9	31
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	374.0	22.3	105.7	74.5	43
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	32.2	30.8%	20.8%	23.6%	20

-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	10,030	11,481	14.5%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,378	$5,044	15.2%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.7%	7.4%	-15.2%
Percent births with early prenatal care	82.6%	93.2%	12.7%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,977	3,982	101.4%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,046	1,828	74.8%
Unemployment rate	7.1%	4.9%	-31.0%
Total population under age 18	2,797	2,602	-7.0%
Percent population under age 18	27.9%	22.7%	-18.7%
Percent minority population	2.1%	2.6%	23.7%
Percent minority population under age 18	2.0%	2.8%	38.2%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.3%	14.4%	39.0%
Percent children in poverty	23.2%	15.3%	-34.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$20,309	$25,843	27.2%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	95.0%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	14.2	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.5 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	103.0%	94.6%

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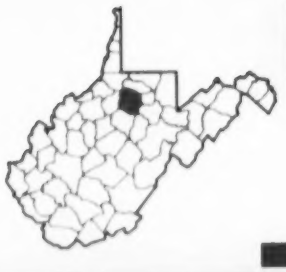
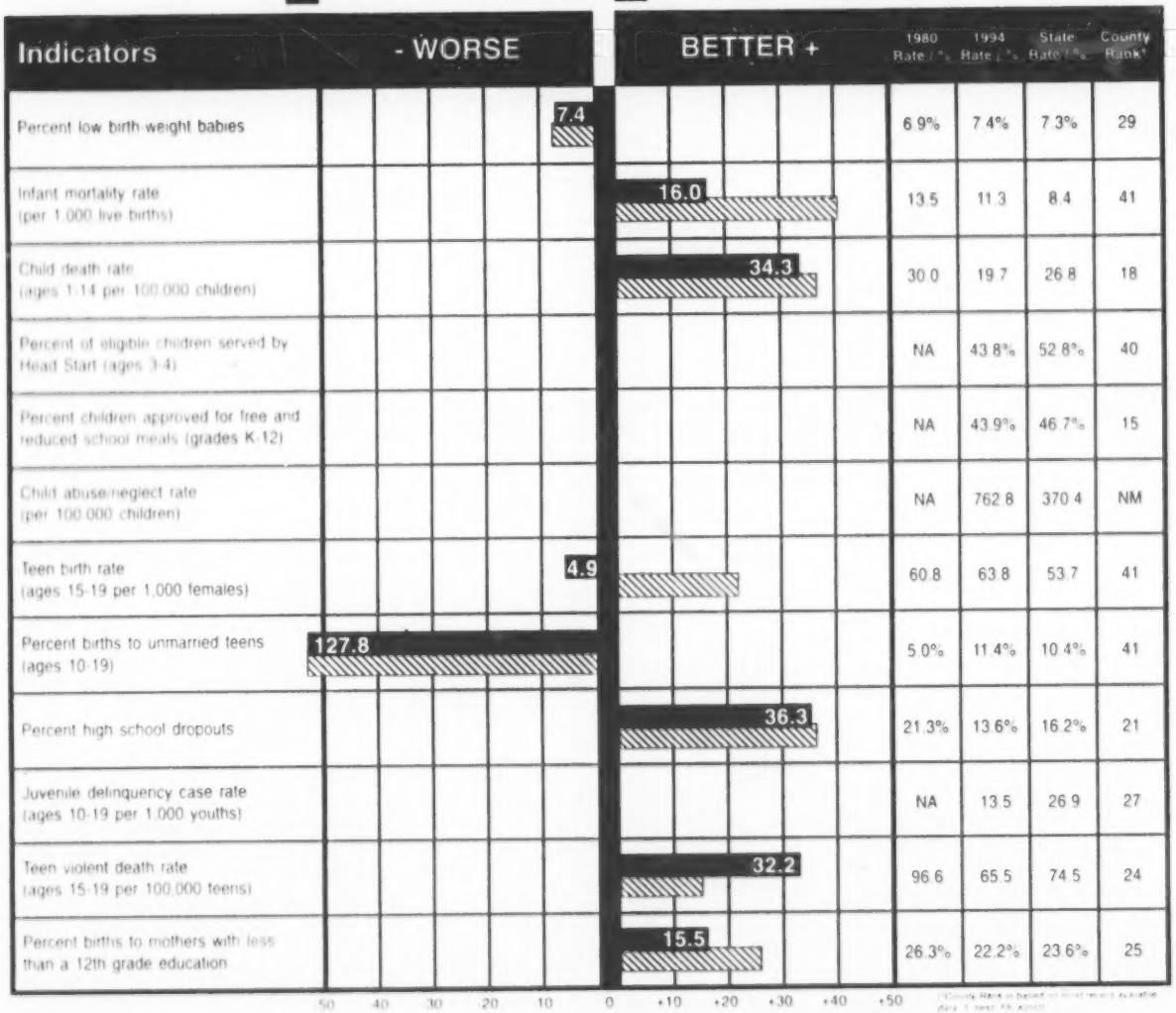


Harrison County

Composite County Rank 27

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



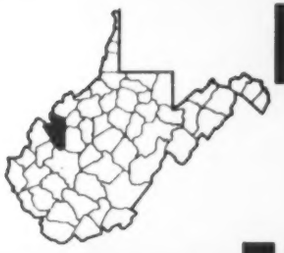
*County Rank is based on most recent data available (1990 to 1994).

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	77,710	70,731	-9.0%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,717	$5,610	51.0%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	9.7%	17.5%	80.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	82.5%	89.0%	7.8%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	13,639	11,868	-13.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	14,501	18,677	28.8%
Unemployment rate	8.4%	8.5%	1.2%
Total population under age 18	21,248	16,495	-22.4%
Percent population under age 18	27.3%	23.3%	-14.7%
Percent minority population	1.7%	3.1%	82.8%
Percent minority population under age 18	2.0%	3.4%	72.1%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	12.3%	17.6%	42.7%
Percent children in poverty	18.1%	24.5%	35.7%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$25,578	$25,245	-1.3%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	93.1%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	15.4	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	17.3 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	97.7%	94.6%

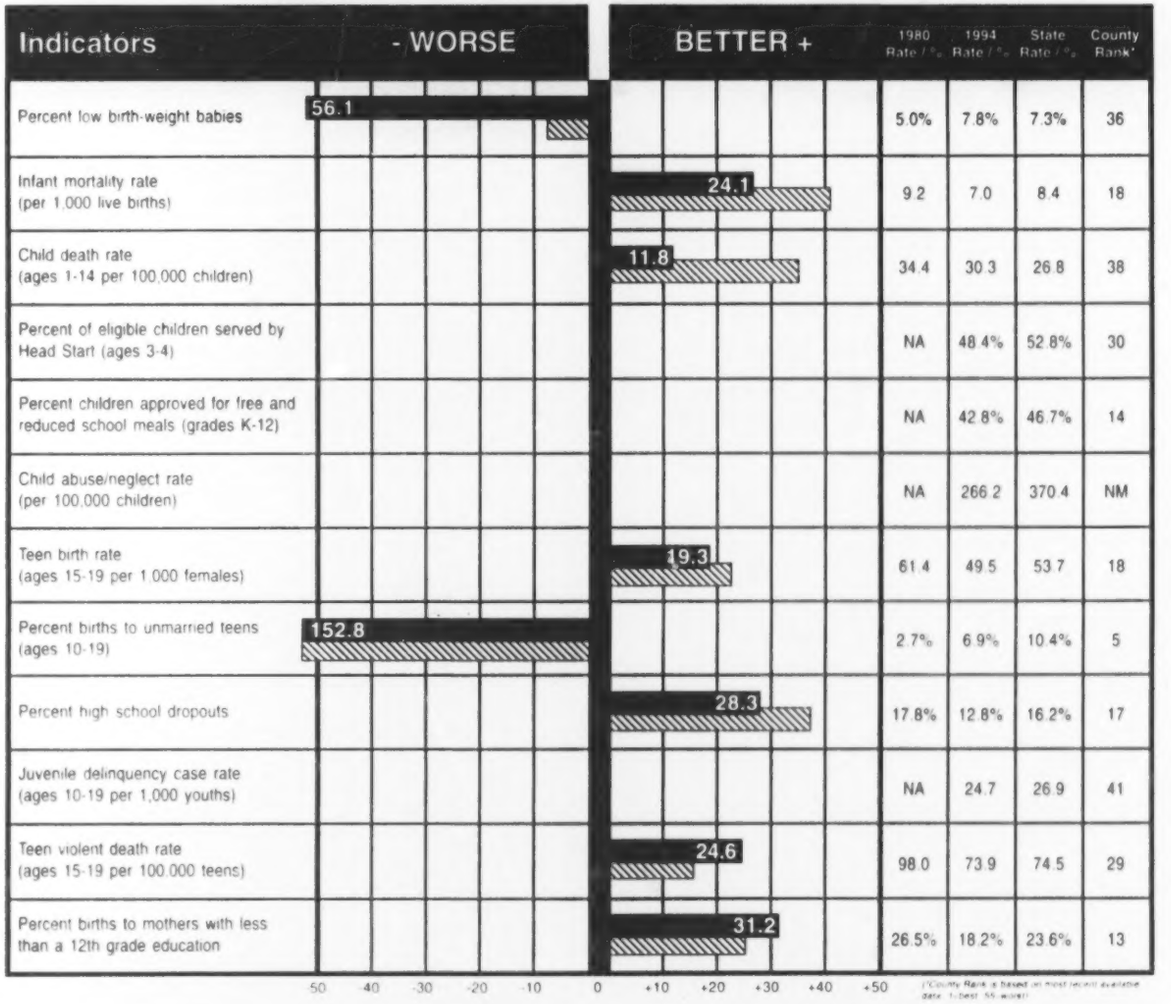


Jackson County

Composite County Rank 12

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change | Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	25,794	26,675	3.4%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,104	$5,726	39.5%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	4.3%	13.7%	218.9%
Percent births with early prenatal care	72.2%	88.6%	22.7%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	5,773	4,454	-22.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,842	4,927	73.4%
Unemployment rate	11.5%	8.9%	-22.6%
Total population under age 18	7,868	6,591	-16.2%
Percent population under age 18	30.5%	24.7%	-19.0%
Percent minority population	0.3%	0.7%	106.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.4%	1.0%	142.4%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	9.3%	15.1%	62.7%
Percent children in poverty	13.7%	24.6%	79.5%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$30,026	$25,121	-16.3%

Education Indicators

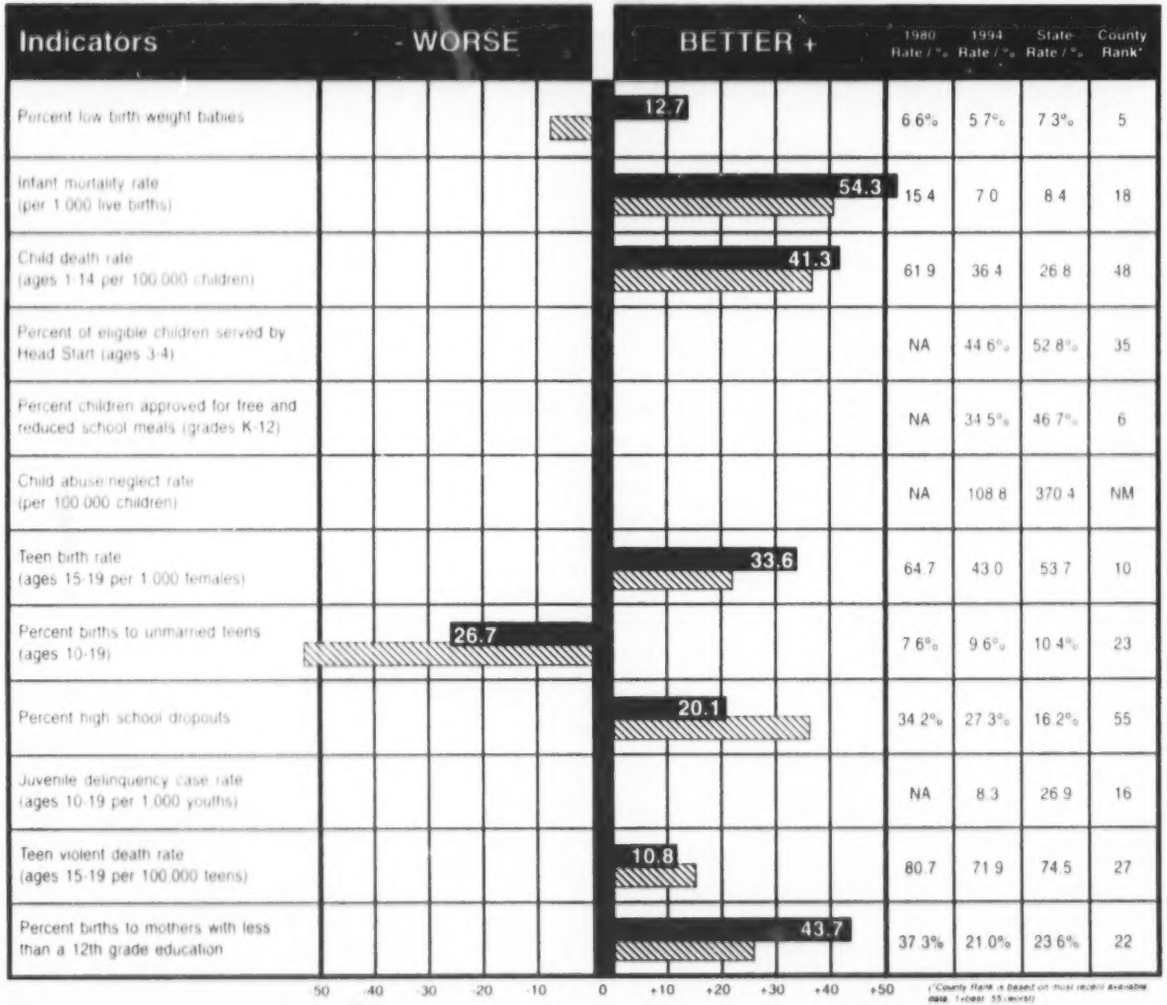
Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.5%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.1	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	17.2 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	90.8%	94.6%

Jefferson County

Composite County Rank 17

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.

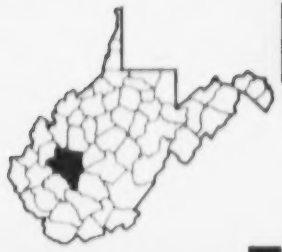


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	30,302	38,895	28.4%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,256	$5,361	64.6%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.3%	11.5%	38.6%
Percent births with early prenatal care	77.3%	86.8%	12.3%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	3,008	4,025	33.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	4,518	7521	66.5%
Unemployment rate	6.3%	4.9%	-22.2%
Total population under age 18	8,915	9,517	6.8%
Percent population under age 18	29.4%	24.5%	-16.8%
Percent minority population	9.6%	9.2%	-4.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	12.1%	10.9%	-9.9%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	13.6%	15.3%	12.6%
Percent children in poverty	17.9%	13.7%	-23.5%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$27,042	$34,887	29.0%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.5%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	15.2	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	14.5 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	92.6%	94.6%

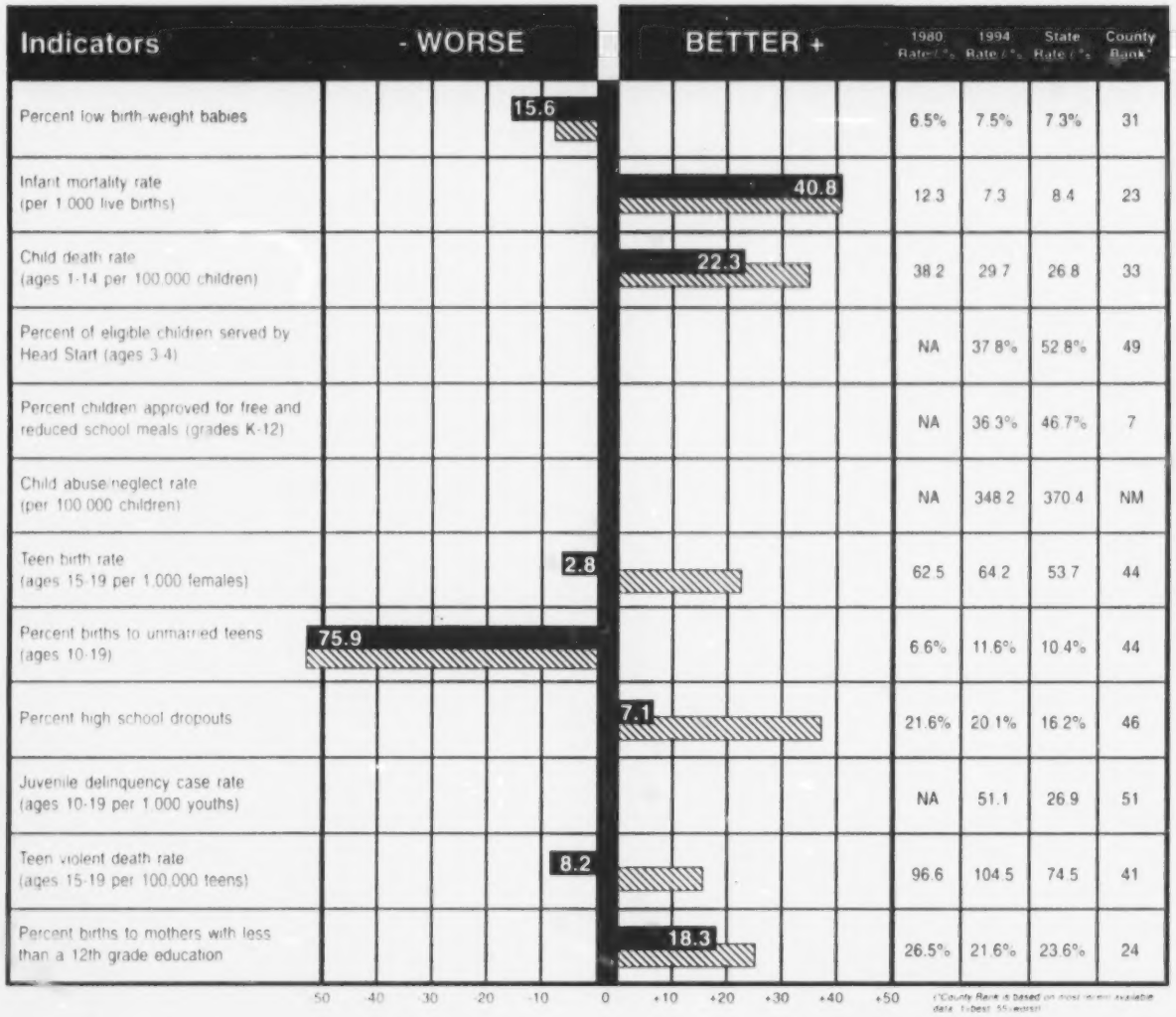


Kanawha County

Composite County Rank 44

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

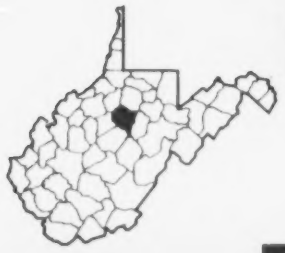


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	231,414	206,802	-10.6%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,227	$5,406	27.9%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	7.9%	16.9%	113.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	71.3%	79.8%	11.9%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	47,860	35,685	-25.4%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	53,461	70,289	31.5%
Unemployment rate	7.2%	6.5%	-9.7%
Total population under age 18	60,714	45,768	-24.6%
Percent population under age 18	26.2%	22.1%	-15.6%
Percent minority population	6.7%	8.0%	19.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	7.9%	10.4%	31.4%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	13.8%	21.0%	52.6%
Percent children in poverty	13.7%	22.0%	60.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$31,334	$30,030	-4.2%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.6%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.6	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	18.4 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	95.1%	94.6%

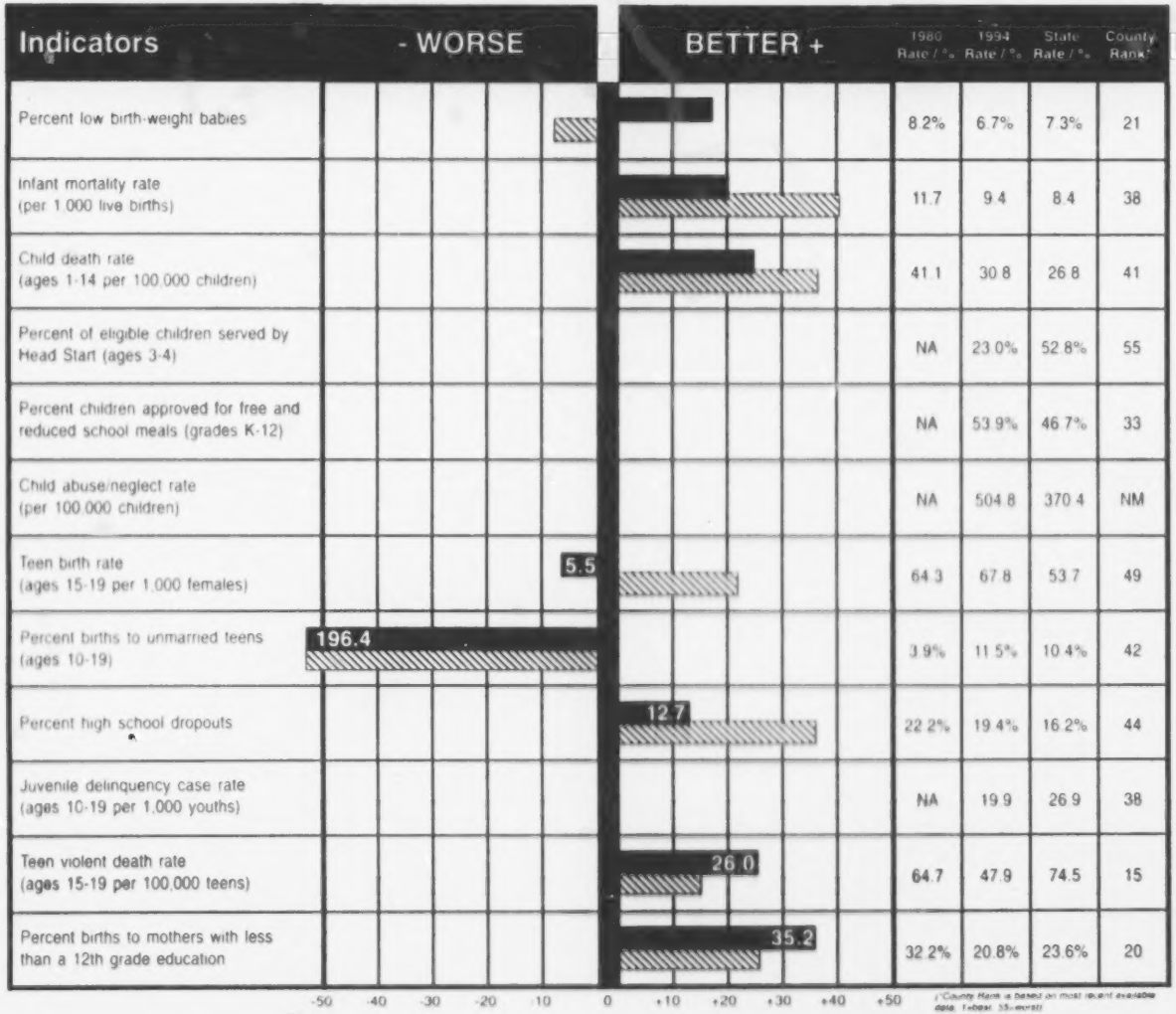


Lewis County

Composite County Rank 36

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



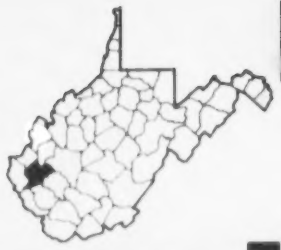
*County Rank is based on most recent available data, 1=best, 55=worst

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	18,813	17,510	-6.9%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,738	$5,922	58.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	9.5%	19.2%	101.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	79.6%	87.0%	9.3%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	2,638	2,249	-14.7%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,307	3,224	39.7%
Unemployment rate	10.0%	11.8%	18.0%
Total population under age 18	5,165	4,000	-22.6%
Percent population under age 18	27.5%	22.8%	-16.8%
Percent minority population	0.7%	1.0%	34.1%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.6%	1.1%	72.2%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	12.7%	18.1%	42.5%
Percent children in poverty	20.2%	31.4%	55.1%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$23,066	$22,273	-3.4%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.9%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.7	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.3 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	95.1%	94.6%

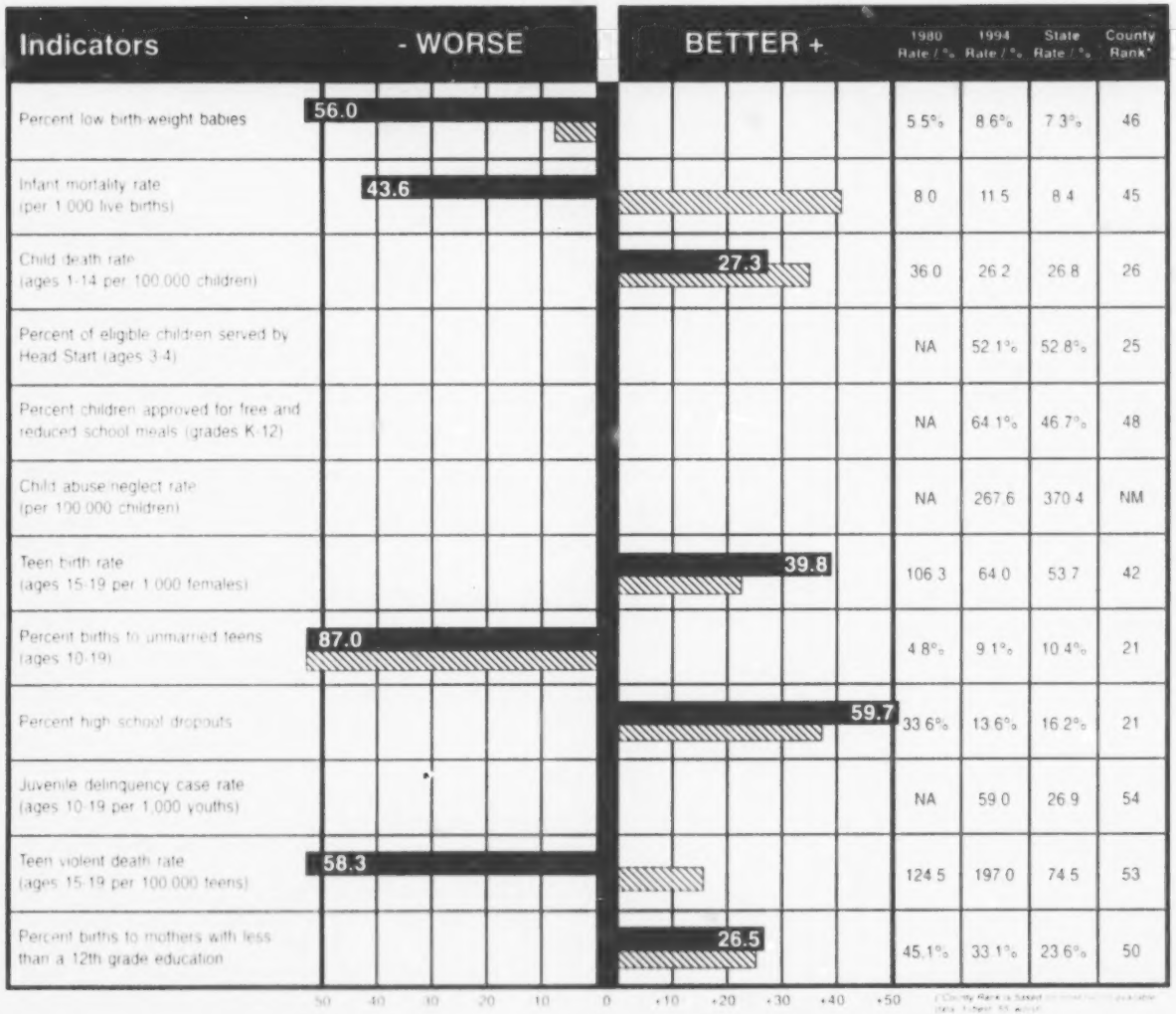


Lincoln County

Composite County Rank 54

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.



Indicators	1980 Rate / %	1994 Rate / %	State Rate / %	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	5.5%	8.6%	7.3%	46
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	8.0	11.5	8.4	45
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	36.0	26.2	26.8	26
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	52.1%	52.8%	25
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	64.1%	46.7%	48
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	267.6	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	106.3	64.0	53.7	42
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	4.8%	9.1%	10.4%	21
Percent high school dropouts	33.6%	13.6%	16.2%	21
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	59.0	26.9	54
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	124.5	197.0	74.5	53
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	45.1%	33.1%	23.6%	50

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	23,675	21,903	-7.5%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,003	$5,736	43.3%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	14.8%	28.7%	93.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	56.3%	86.7%	54.0%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,014	1,380	36.1%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,099	1,701	54.8%
Unemployment rate	14.3%	13.2%	-7.7%
Total population under age 18	7,894	5,828	-26.2%
Percent population under age 18	33.3%	26.6%	-20.2%
Percent minority population	0.2%	0.4%	106.1%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.4%	NM

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.2%	14.8%	44.0%
Percent children in poverty	28.9%	45.1%	56.3%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$21,166	$16,868	-20.3%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	90.7%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	15.7	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	14.2 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	98.3%	94.6%

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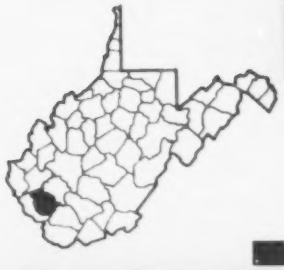
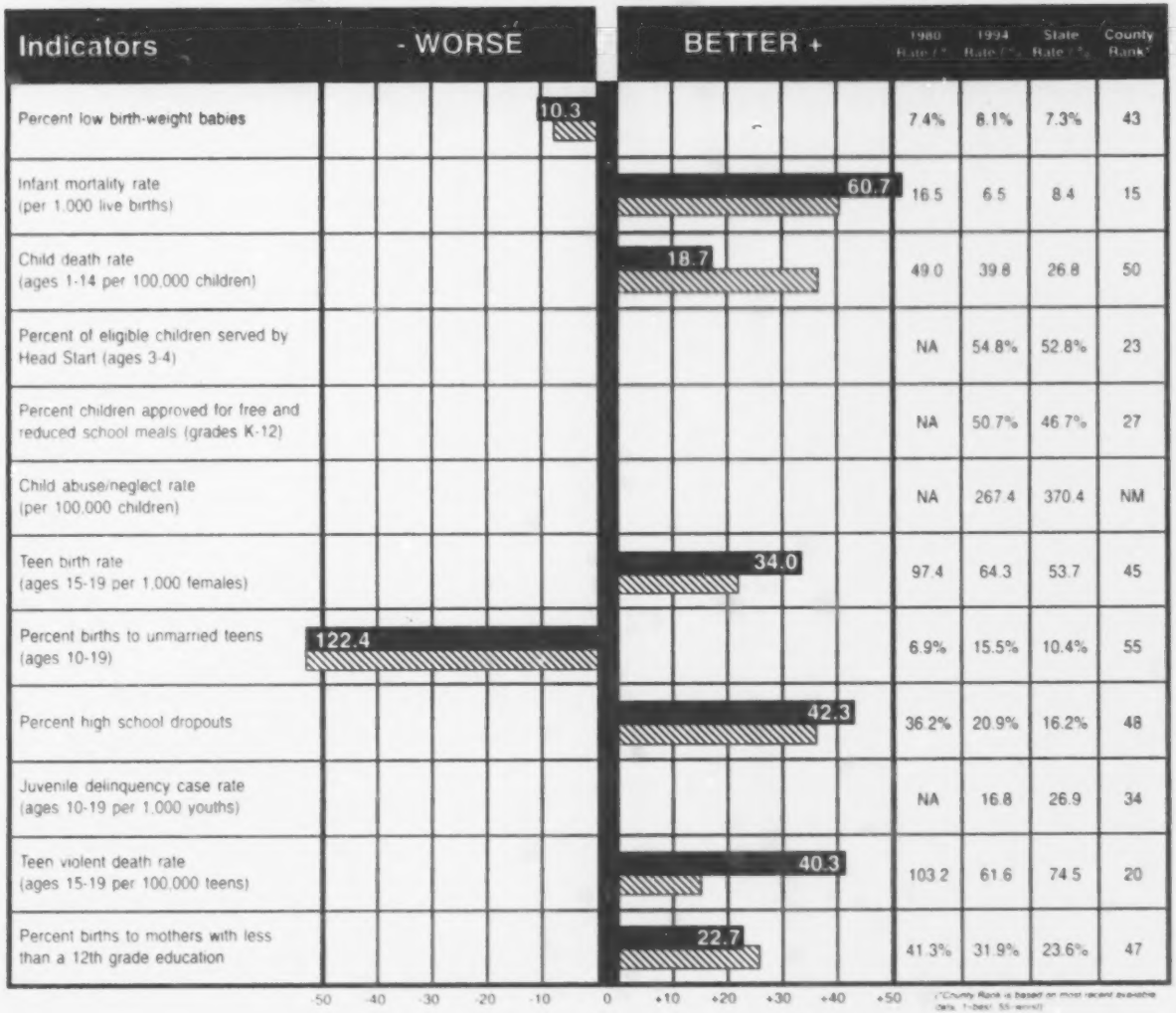


Logan County

Composite County Rank 51

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



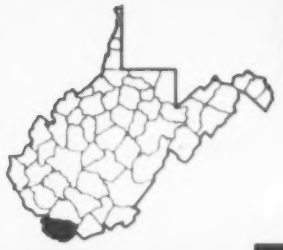
*County Rank is based on most recent available data. 1=best, 55=worst

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	50,679	42,898	-15.4%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,483	$5,814	66.9%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	10.7%	23.7%	121.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	47.8%	76.5%	60.1%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	8,461	5,472	-35.3%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	6,334	7,840	23.8%
Unemployment rate	8.6%	13.3%	54.7%
Total population under age 18	16,758	11,425	-31.8%
Percent population under age 18	33.1%	26.6%	-19.5%
Percent minority population	4.7%	4.4%	-6.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	4.7%	4.7%	0.8%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	11.6%	17.5%	50.1%
Percent children in poverty	21.9%	37.3%	70.7%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$25,483	$21,100	-17.2%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.4%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	18.4	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.9 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	96.1%	94.6%

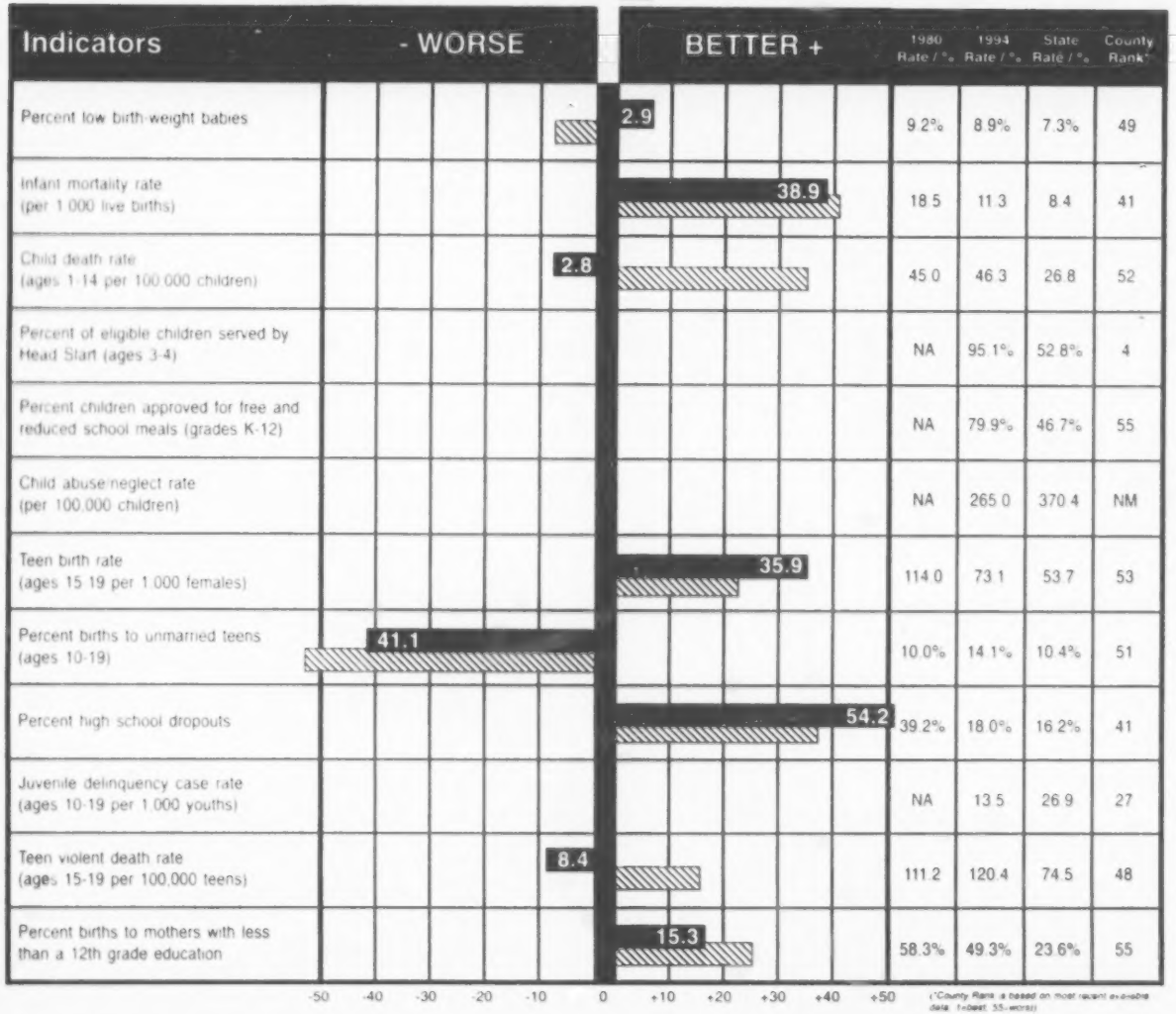


McDowell County

Composite County Rank 55

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.



Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	49,899	33,067	-33.7%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,607	$6,416	77.9%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	22.5%	34.6%	53.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	48.8%	69.2%	41.7%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	9,046	2,561	-71.7%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	3,942	2,846	-27.8%
Unemployment rate	13.0%	13.7%	5.4%
Total population under age 18	17,225	9,180	-46.7%
Percent population under age 18	34.5%	27.8%	-19.6%
Percent minority population	15.0%	14.3%	-4.7%
Percent minority population under age 18	14.2%	15.3%	8.2%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	13.8%	19.1%	38.1%
Percent children in poverty	31.2%	50.3%	61.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$21,729	$15,756	-27.5%

Education Indicators

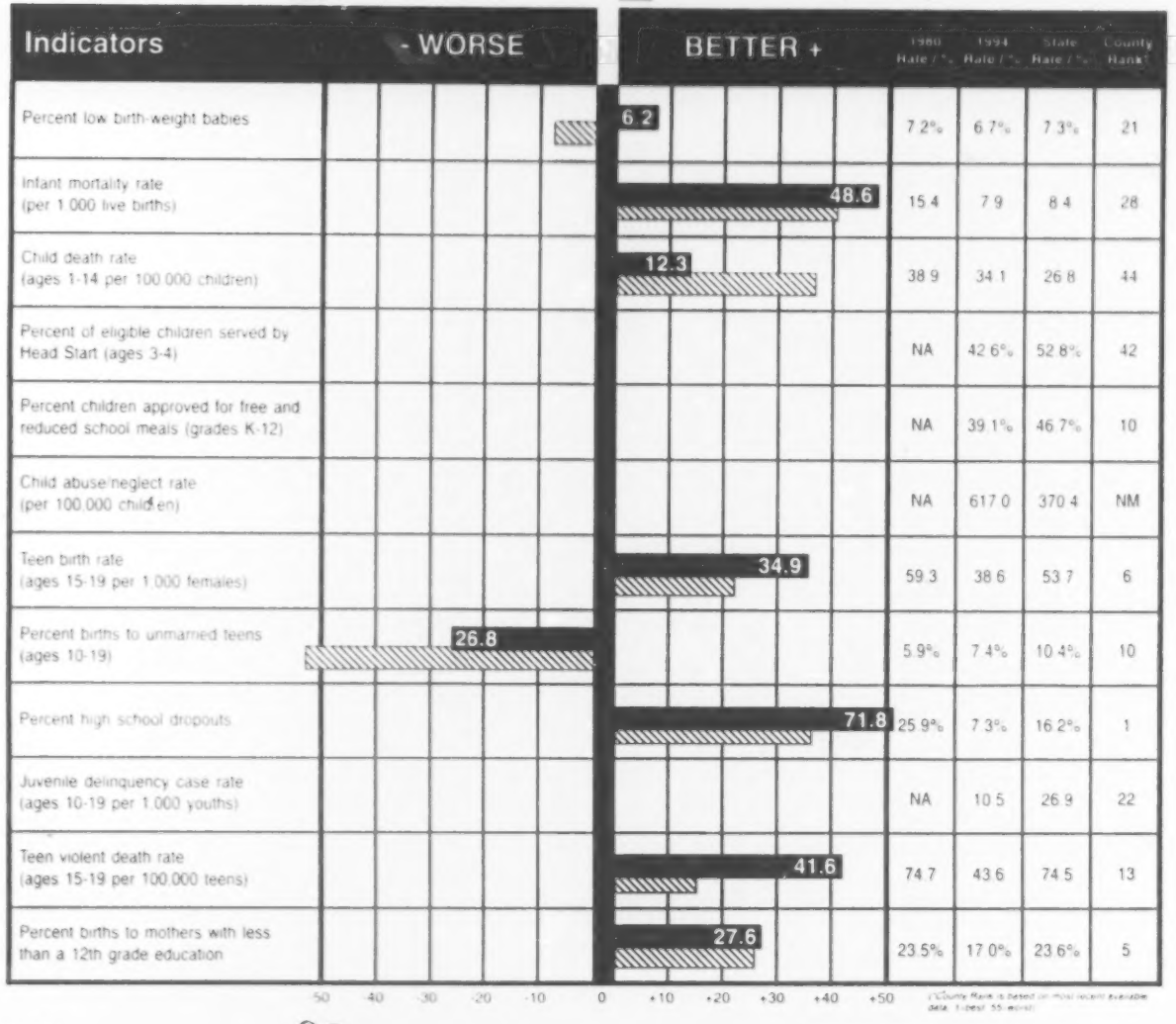
Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	87.6%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.7	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.5 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	98.7%	94.6%

Marion County

Composite County Rank 6

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.



Background Facts

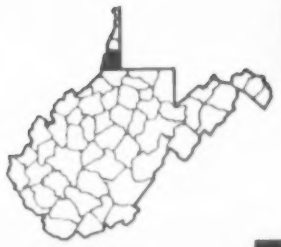
Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	65,789	58,086	-11.7%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,173	$5,360	28.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	10.2%	18.8%	85.2%
Percent births with early prenatal care	76.3%	79.5%	4.2%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	11,812	7,836	-33.7%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	9,764	11,625	19.1%
Unemployment rate	9.9%	11.0%	11.1%
Total population under age 18	17,369	12,531	-27.9%
Percent population under age 18	26.4%	21.6%	-18.3%
Percent minority population	4.0%	4.4%	10.6%
Percent minority population under age 18	4.8%	5.3%	9.5%

Background Facts

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	12.5%	17.0%	35.7%
Percent children in poverty	16.6%	26.5%	59.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$27,266	$25,963	-4.8%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	95.3%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.4	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	18.3 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	95.6%	94.6%



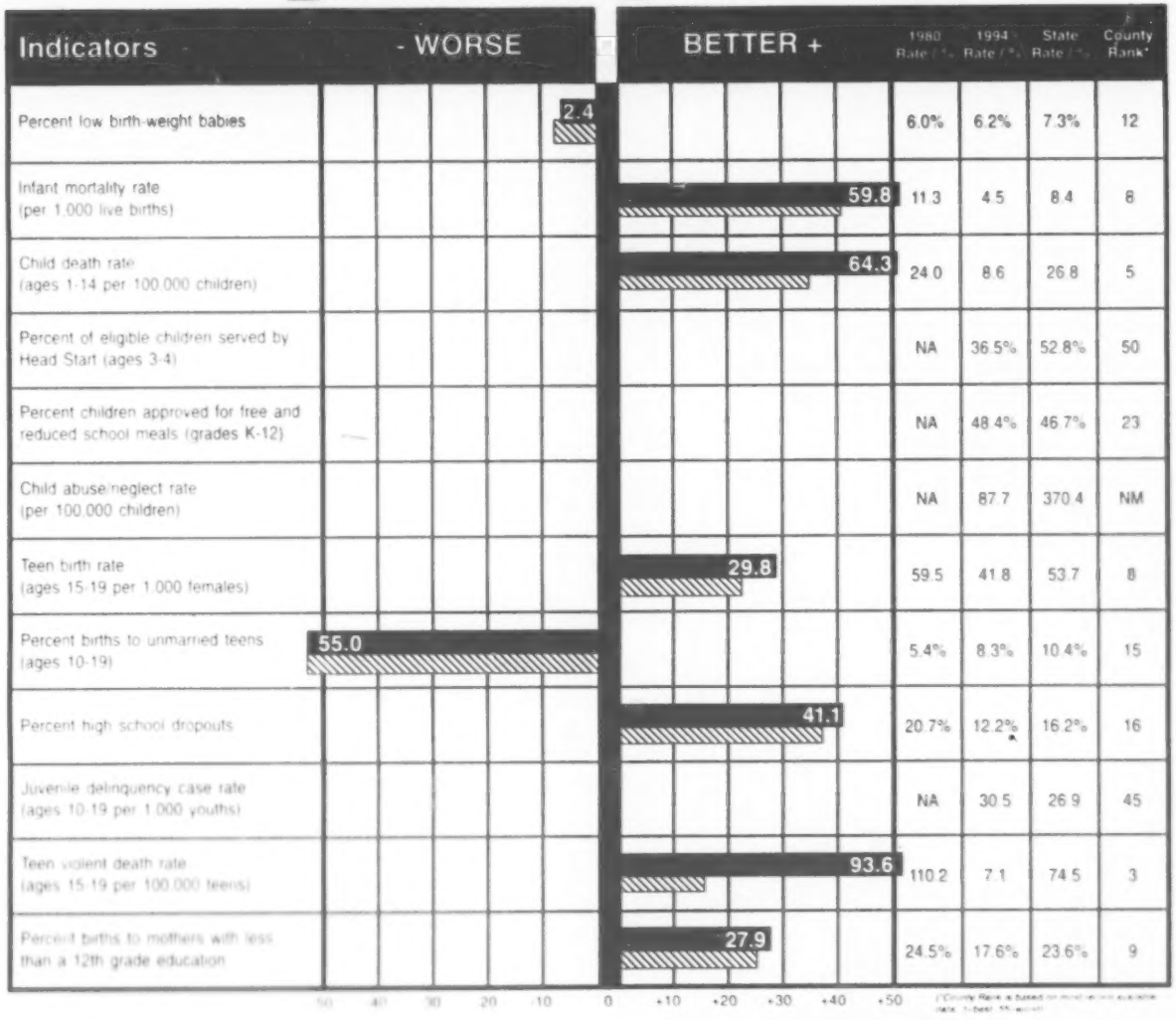
Marshall County

Composite County Rank 5

Percent Change 1980-1994

Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change | Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on most recent available data, 1 best, 55 worst

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	41,608	37,290	-10.4%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,236	$6,044	42.7%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.4%	14.3%	70.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	83.9%	89.1%	6.1%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	8,353	5,754	-31.1%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	4,224	6,422	52.0%
Unemployment rate	11.9%	9.2%	-22.7%
Total population under age 18	12,020	8,672	-27.9%
Percent population under age 18	28.9%	23.3%	-19.5%
Percent minority population	1.0%	1.5%	54.6%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.9%	1.5%	77.6%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	11.1%	16.3%	47.3%
Percent children in poverty	11.8%	21.4%	80.9%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$31,045	$26,974	-13.1%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	93.6%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	14.5	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	19.4 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	96.9%	94.6%

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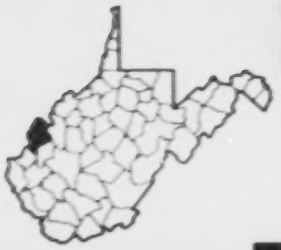
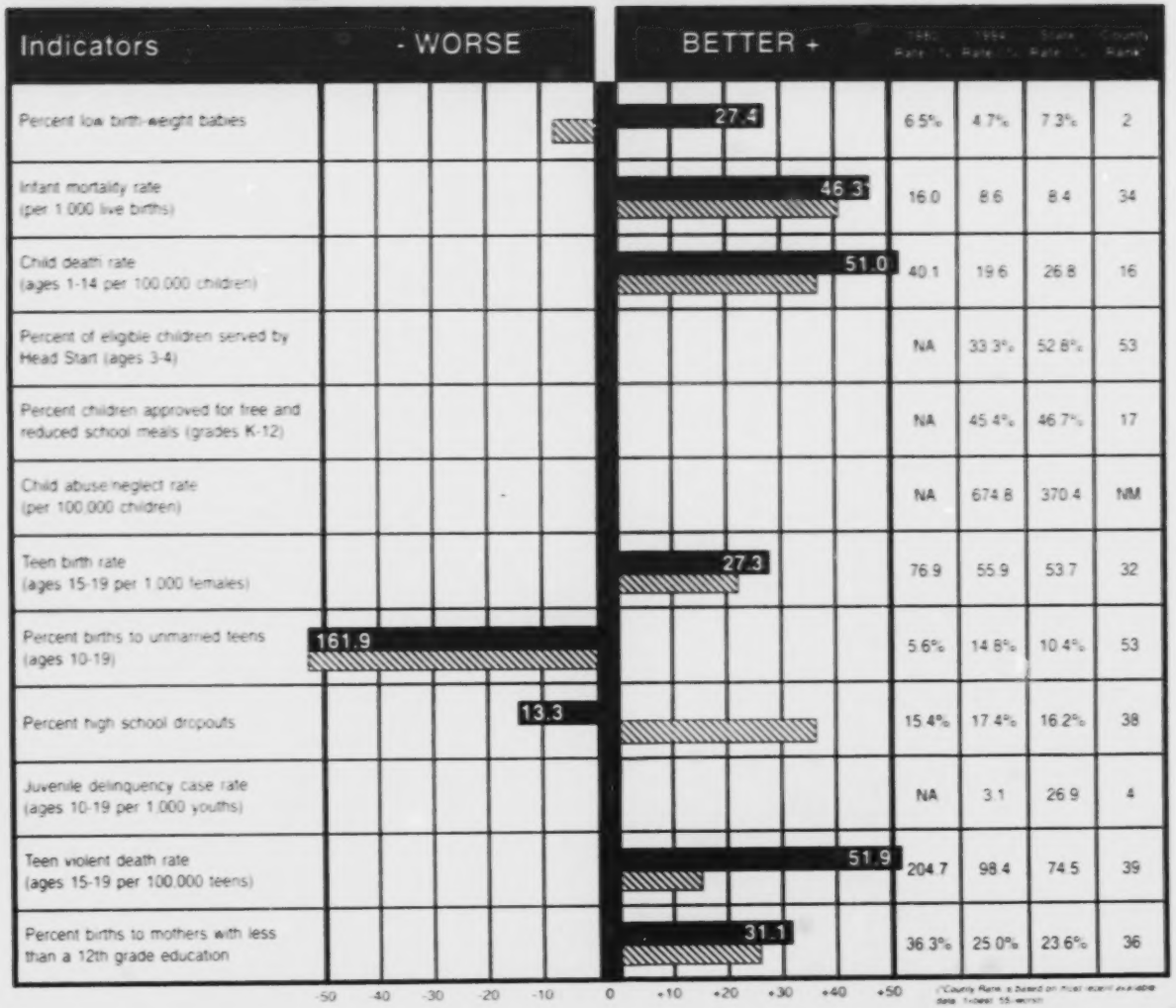


Mason County

Composite County Rank 24

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.


Indicators
- WORSE
BETTER +
Percent low birth weight babies
27.4
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)
46.3
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)
51.0
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)
27.3
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)
161.9
Percent high school dropouts
13.3
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)
51.9
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education
31.1
-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50

Indicators	1980 Rate %	1994 Rate %	State Rate %	County Rank*
Percent low birth weight babies	6.5%	4.7%	7.3%	2
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	16.0	8.6	8.4	34
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	40.1	19.6	26.8	16
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	33.3%	52.8%	53
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	45.4%	46.7%	17
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	674.8	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	76.9	55.9	53.7	32
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	5.6%	14.8%	10.4%	53
Percent high school dropouts	15.4%	17.4%	16.2%	38
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	3.1	26.9	4
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	204.7	98.4	74.5	39
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	36.3%	25.0%	23.6%	36

*County Rank is based on most recent available data (1 = best, 55 = worst)

Background Facts

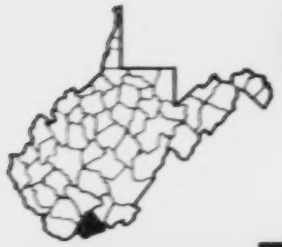
	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	27,045	25,351	-6.3%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,109	$5,994	45.9%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	6.3%	15.8%	149.9%
Percent births with early prenatal care	66.4%	86.2%	29.8%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	4,529	3,871	-14.5%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,828	3,601	27.3%
Unemployment rate	12.8%	11.9%	-7.0%
Total population under age 18	8,041	6,238	-22.4%
Percent population under age 18	29.7%	24.6%	-17.2%
Percent minority population	0.9%	1.2%	27.9%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.1%	1.4%	21.9%

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.4%	16.3%	57.6%
Percent children in poverty	16.0%	27.5%	71.8%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$26,720	$24,125	-9.7%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.1%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	14.4	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.9 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	94.8%	94.6%

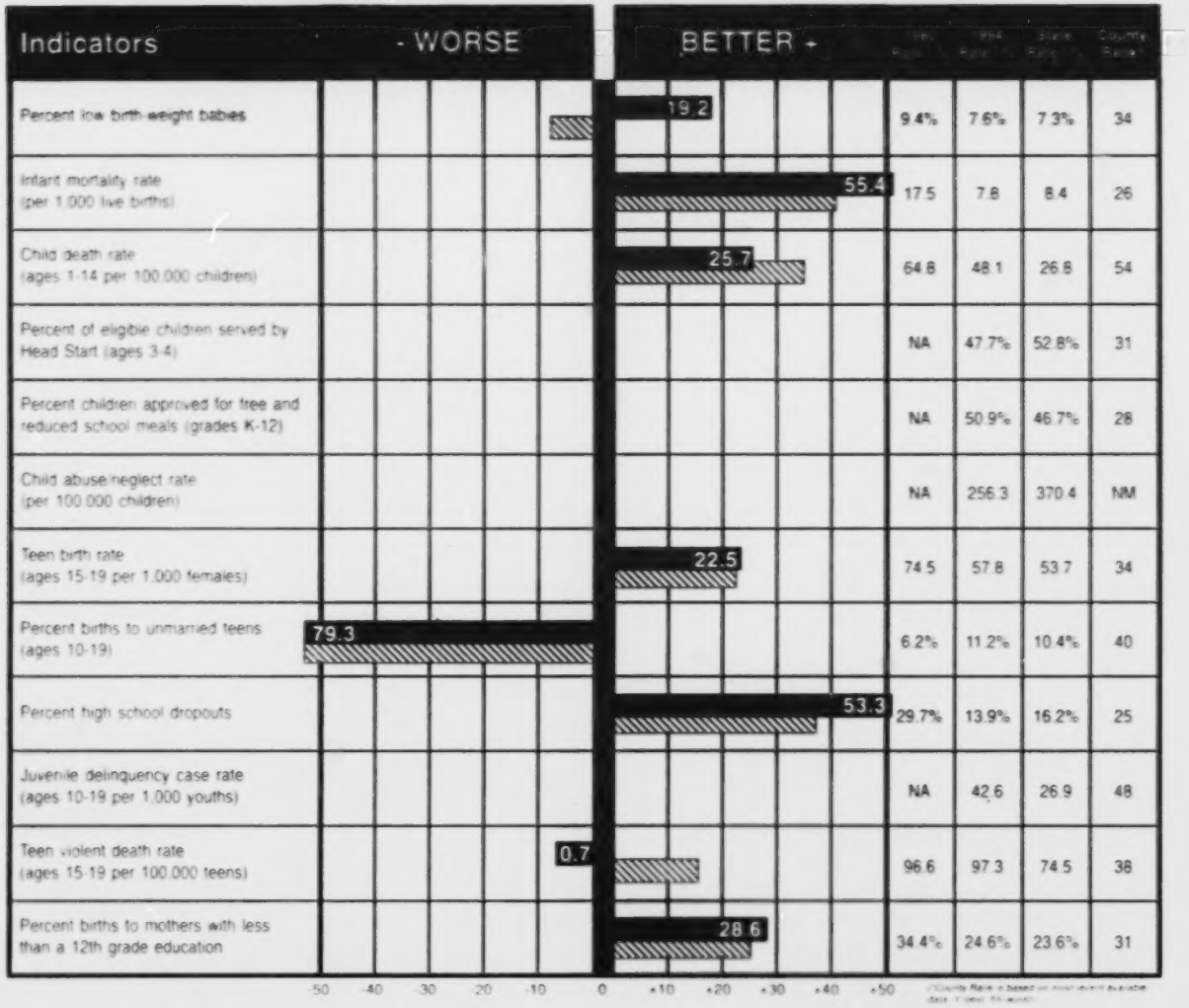


Mercer County

Composite County Rank 45

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Indicators	1980 Rate	1994 Rate	State Rate	County Rank*
Percent low birth weight babies	9.4%	7.6%	7.3%	34
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	17.5	7.8	8.4	26
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	64.8	48.1	26.8	54
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	47.7%	52.8%	31
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	50.9%	46.7%	28
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	256.3	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	74.5	57.8	53.7	34
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	6.2%	11.2%	10.4%	40
Percent high school dropouts	29.7%	13.9%	16.2%	25
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	42.6	26.9	48
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	96.6	97.3	74.5	38
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	34.4%	24.6%	23.6%	31

*County Rank is based on most recent available data. 1 (best) - 55 (worst)

Background Facts

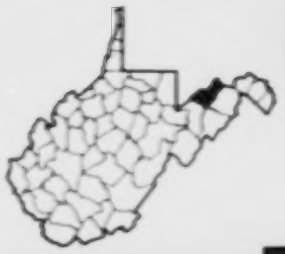
	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	73,942	65,060	-12.0%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,687	$5,615	52.3%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	11.9%	18.4%	55.2%
Percent births with early prenatal care	67.6%	78.6%	16.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	9,063	6,779	-25.2%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	13,970	15,263	9.3%
Unemployment rate	9.2%	7.3%	-20.7%
Total population under age 18	20,938	14,881	-28.9%
Percent population under age 18	28.3%	22.9%	-19.2%
Percent minority population	7.4%	7.5%	1.0%
Percent minority population under age 18	8.0%	9.4%	16.9%

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	12.5%	18.0%	44.5%
Percent children in poverty	19.9%	29.3%	47.0%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$25,663	$24,020	-6.4%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.6%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.4	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	17.6 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	93.0%	94.6%

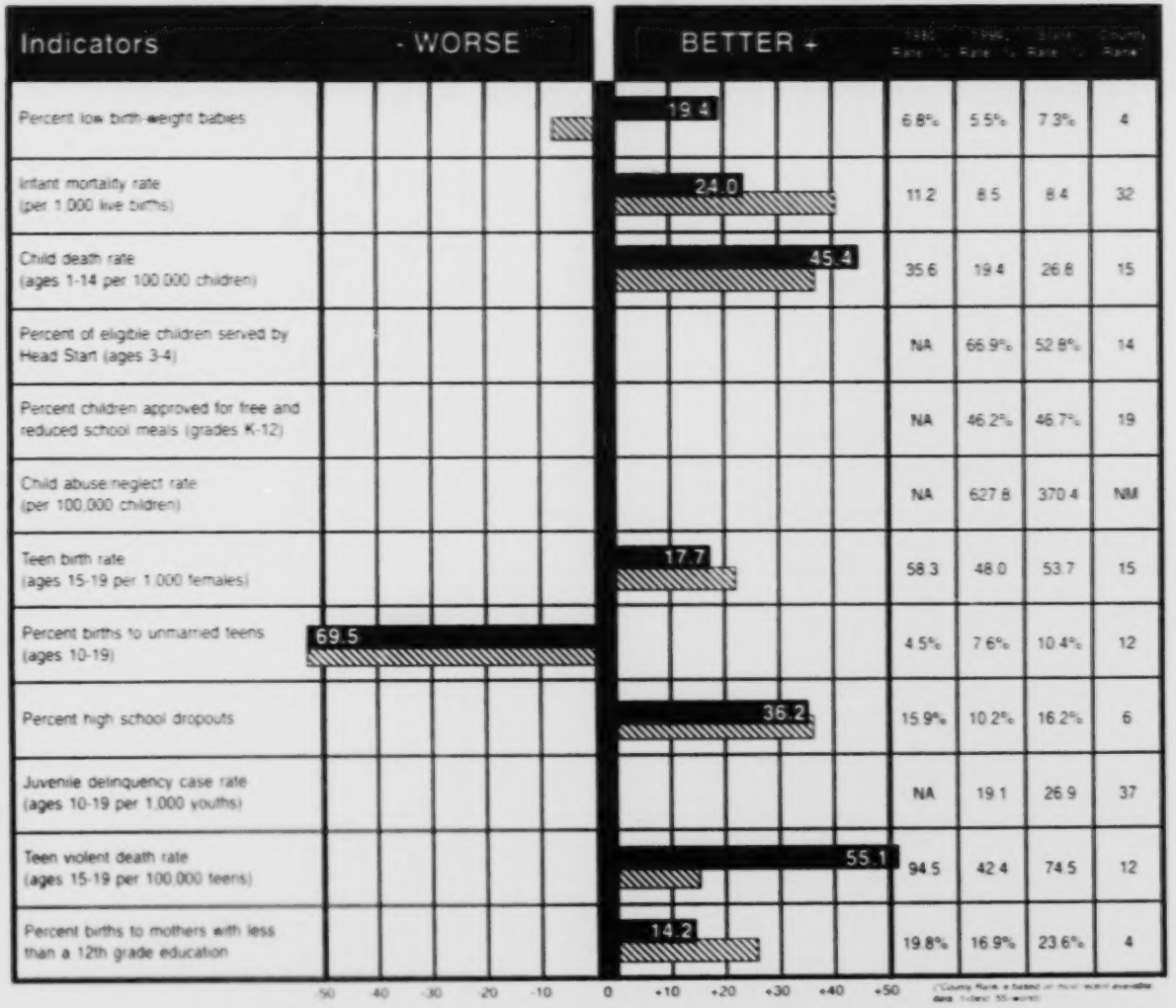


Mineral County

Composite County Rank 7

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Indicators	1980 Rate %	1990 Rate %	State Rate %	County Rank
Percent low birth-weight babies	6.8%	5.5%	7.3%	4
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	11.2	8.5	8.4	32
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	35.6	19.4	26.8	15
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	66.9%	52.8%	14
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	46.2%	46.7%	19
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	627.8	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	58.3	48.0	53.7	15
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	4.5%	7.6%	10.4%	12
Percent high school dropouts	15.9%	10.2%	16.2%	6
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	19.1	26.9	37
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	94.5	42.4	74.5	12
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	19.8%	16.9%	23.6%	4

(County Rank is based on most recent available data. Ranks: 55=worst)

Background Facts

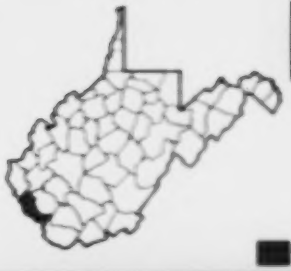
	1980	1990	% Change
Total population	27,234	27,245	0.0%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,747	$5,432	45.0%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.9%	11.5%	29.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	76.6%	89.5%	16.8%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	3,457	3,065	-11.3%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,503	3,730	49.0%
Unemployment rate	8.0%	6.3%	-21.3%
Total population under age 18	8,150	6,500	-20.2%
Percent population under age 18	29.9%	23.9%	-20.3%
Percent minority population	3.3%	3.4%	2.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	4.1%	4.0%	-2.3%

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.7%	14.7%	37.5%
Percent children in poverty	16.8%	19.4%	15.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$25,631	$26,895	4.9%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.2%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.6	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	17.4 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	89.9%	94.6%

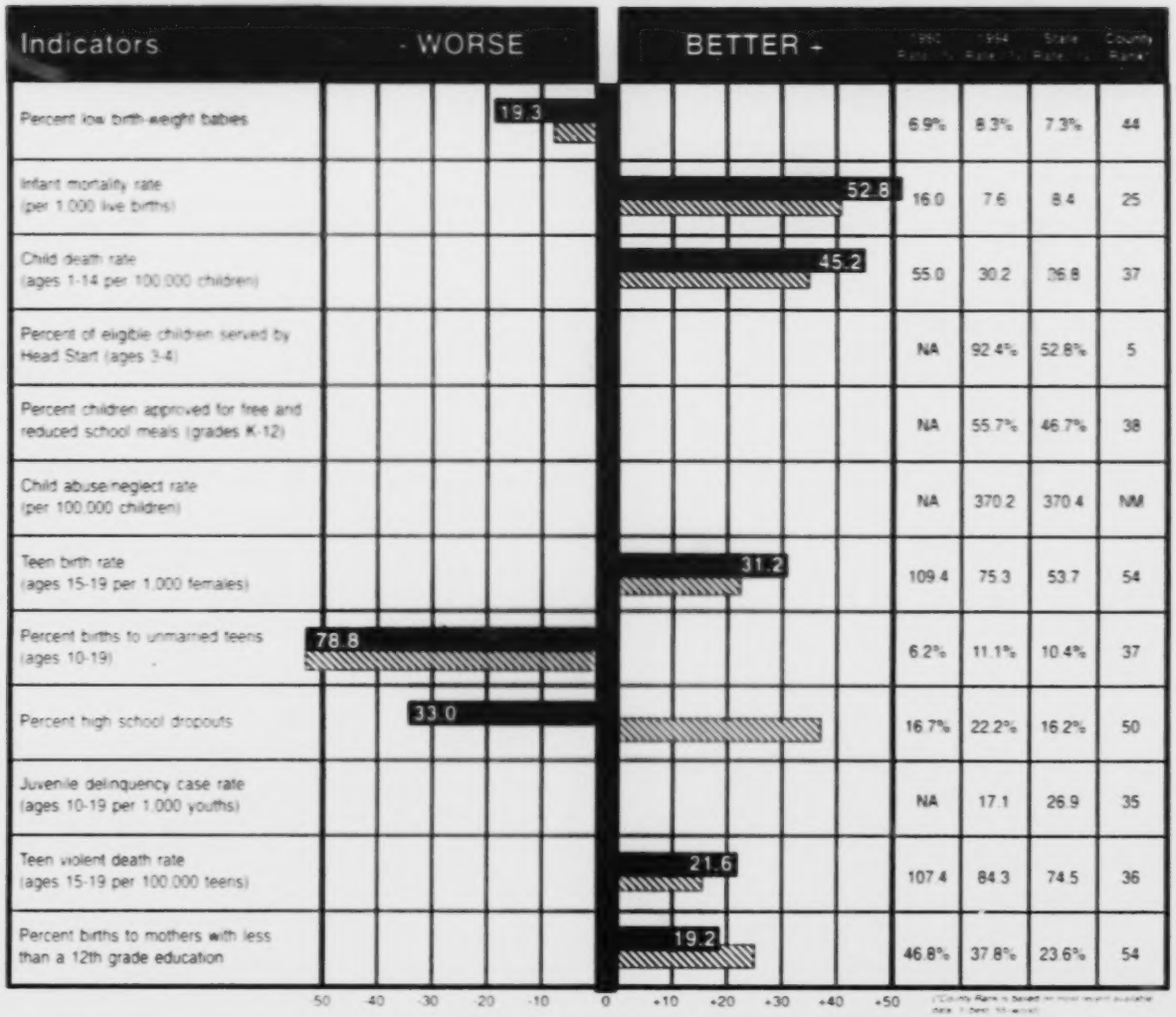


Mingo County

Composite County Rank 52

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.


Indicators
- WORSE
BETTER -
Percent low birth-weight babies
19.3
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)
52.8
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)
45.2
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)
31.2
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)
78.8
Percent high school dropouts
33.0
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)
21.6
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education
19.2
50 40 30 20 10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50

Indicators	1980 Rate %	1994 Rate %	State Rate %	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	6.9%	8.3%	7.3%	44
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	16.0	7.6	8.4	25
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	55.0	30.2	26.8	37
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	92.4%	52.8%	5
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	55.7%	46.7%	38
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	370.2	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	109.4	75.3	53.7	54
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	6.2%	11.1%	10.4%	37
Percent high school dropouts	16.7%	22.2%	16.2%	50
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	17.1	26.9	35
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	107.4	84.3	74.5	36
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	46.8%	37.8%	23.6%	54

*County Rank is based on most recent available data (1 best, 55 worst)

Background Facts

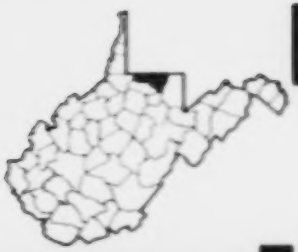
	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	37,336	33,953	-9.1%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,462	$6,178	78.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	18.2%	29.3%	60.5%
Percent births with early prenatal care	42.6%	76.7%	80.3%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	5,182	6,552	26.4%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	4,084	4,422	8.3%
Unemployment rate	9.6%	12.9%	34.4%
Total population under age 18	13,126	9,944	-24.2%
Percent population under age 18	35.2%	29.3%	-16.7%
Percent minority population	3.1%	3.2%	1.9%
Percent minority population • under age 18	2.9%	3.4%	15.5%

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	12.5%	18.6%	48.4%
Percent children in poverty	30.2%	37.7%	24.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$22,900	$19,643	-14.2%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	90.6%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	13.8	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.4 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	95.6%	94.6%

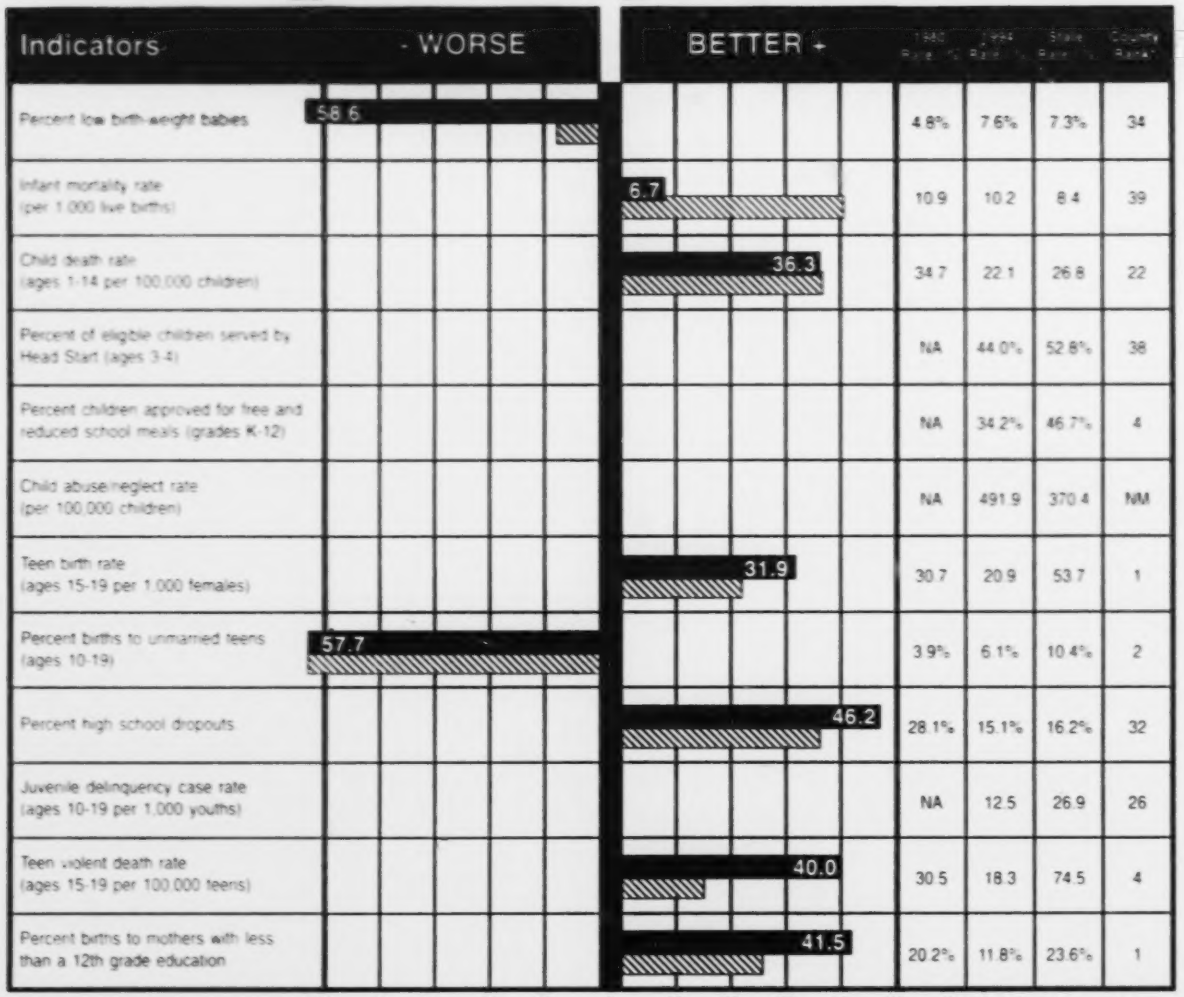


Monongalia County

Composite County Rank 3

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change


Indicators - WORSE
BETTER +
Percent low birth-weight babies
58.6
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)
6.7
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)
36.3
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)
31.9
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)
57.7
Percent high school dropouts
46.2
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)
40.0
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education
41.5
50 40 30 20 10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50

Indicators	1980 Rate %	1994 Rate %	State Rate %	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	4.8%	7.6%	7.3%	34
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	10.9	10.2	8.4	39
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	34.7	22.1	26.8	22
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	44.0%	52.8%	38
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	34.2%	46.7%	4
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	491.9	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	30.7	20.9	53.7	1
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	3.9%	6.1%	10.4%	2
Percent high school dropouts	28.1%	15.1%	16.2%	32
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	12.5	26.9	26
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	30.5	18.3	74.5	4
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	20.2%	11.8%	23.6%	1

*(County Rank is based on most recent available data: 1 best, 55 worst)

Background Facts

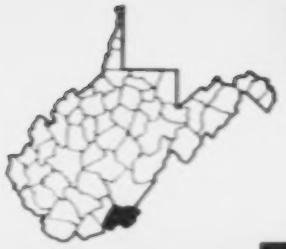
	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	75,024	78,037	4.0%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,009	$5,441	35.7%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	4.5%	10.8%	138.1%
Percent births with early prenatal care	77.2%	87.4%	13.2%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	10,470	10,352	-1.1%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	11,520	22,457	94.9%
Unemployment rate	7.1%	8.1%	14.1%
Total population under age 18	16,658	14,849	-10.9%
Percent population under age 18	22.2%	19.0%	-14.3%
Percent minority population	3.7%	5.7%	54.3%
Percent minority population under age 18	3.7%	5.6%	51.1%

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	11.2%	15.8%	41.1%
Percent children in poverty	11.2%	19.1%	70.7%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$28,731	$30,426	5.9%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.6%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	18.8	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.1 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	86.0%	94.6%

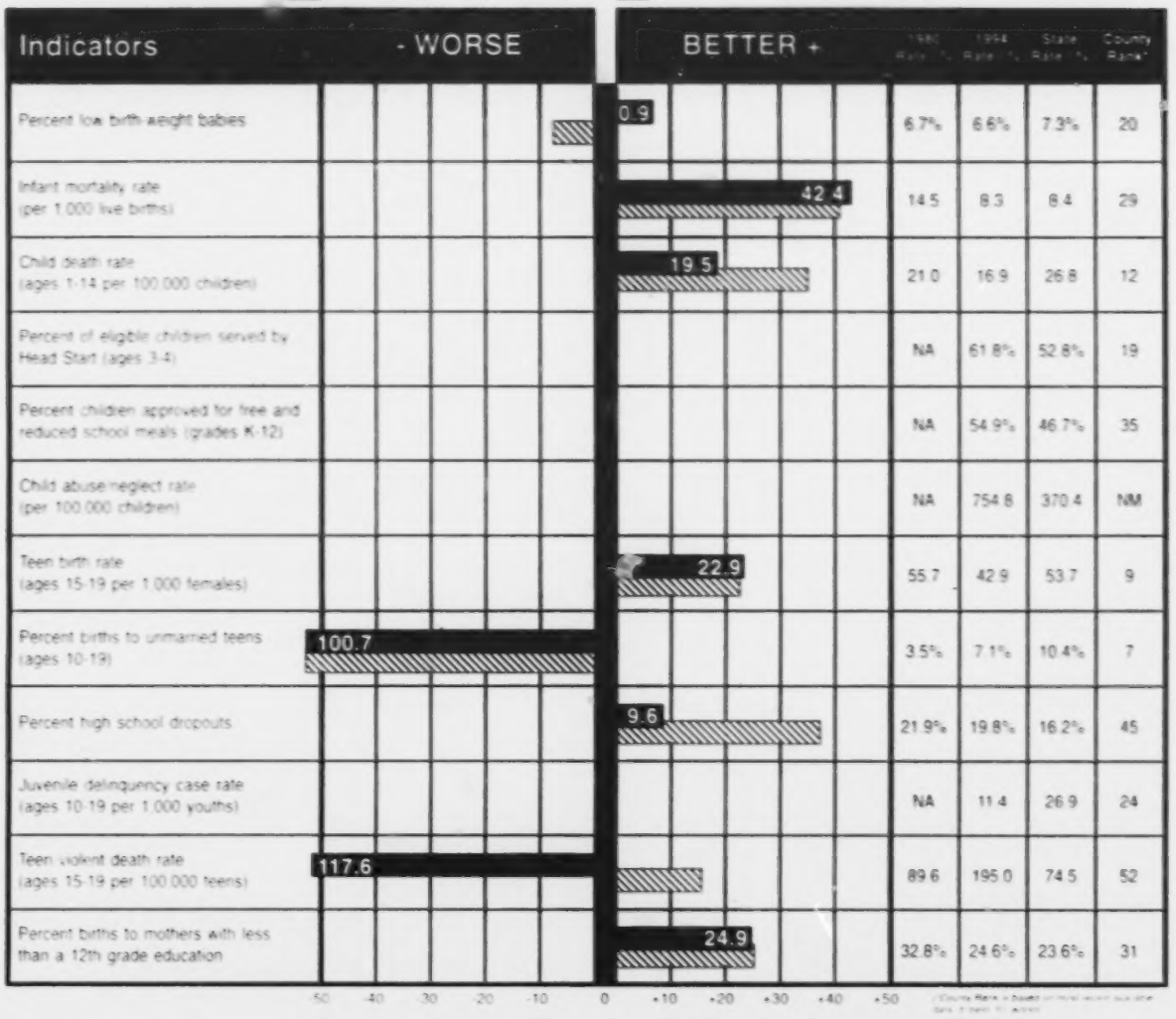


Monroe County

Composite County Rank 30

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.


Indicators - WORSE
BETTER +
Percent low birth weight babies
0.9
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)
42.4
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)
19.5
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)
22.9
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)
100.7
Percent high school dropouts
9.6
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)
117.6
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education
24.9
-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50

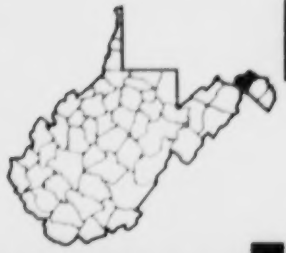
Indicators	1980 Rate	1994 Rate	State Rate	County Rank*
Percent low birth weight babies	6.7%	6.6%	7.3%	20
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	14.5	8.3	8.4	29
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	21.0	16.9	26.8	12
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	61.8%	52.8%	19
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	54.9%	46.7%	35
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	754.8	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	55.7	42.9	53.7	9
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	3.5%	7.1%	10.4%	7
Percent high school dropouts	21.9%	19.8%	16.2%	45
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	11.4	26.9	24
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	89.6	195.0	74.5	52
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	32.8%	24.6%	23.6%	31

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	12,873	12,963	0.7%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,798	$5,670	49.3%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	4.5%	9.4%	108.9%
Percent births with early prenatal care	55.1%	86.5%	57.1%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	976	906	-7.2%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	855	1,225	43.3%
Unemployment rate	7.1%	9.5%	33.8%
Total population under age 18	3,805	3,007	-21.0%
Percent population under age 18	29.6%	23.2%	-21.5%
Percent minority population	2.0%	1.9%	-9.0%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.8%	1.9%	7.7%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	8.7%	13.5%	55.0%
Percent children in poverty	25.3%	25.4%	0.5%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$19,792	$21,530	8.8%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.2%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	18.1	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.2 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	92.3%	94.6%

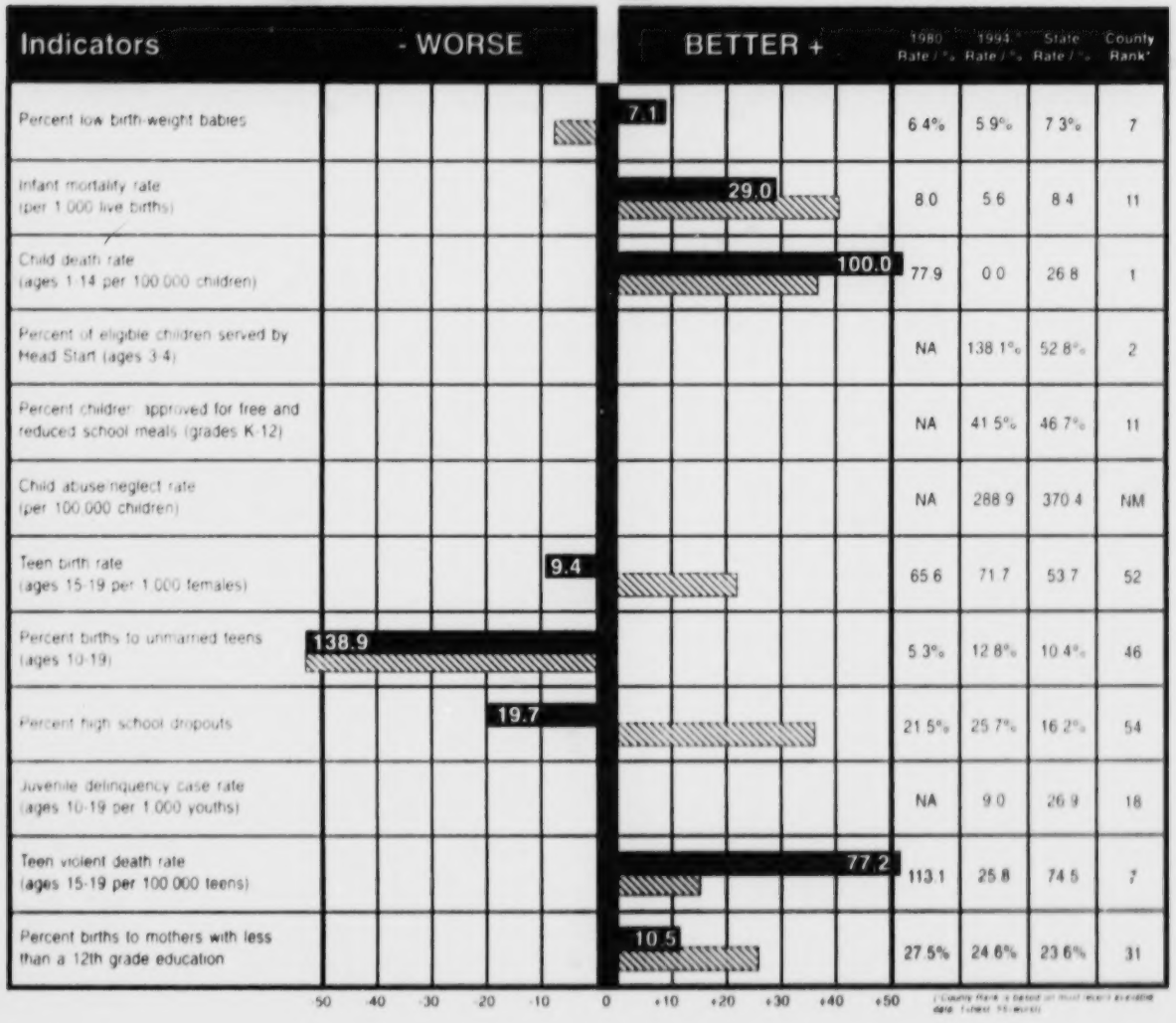


Morgan County

Composite County Rank 18

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



* County Rank = based on most recent available data (ranked 55 worst)

Background Facts

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	10,711	12,949	20.9%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,677	$5,418	47.3%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	4.7%	10.7%	129.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	75.3%	80.1%	6.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	872	1,271	45.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,039	2,021	94.5%
Unemployment rate	6.7%	5.4%	-19.4%
Total population under age 18	3,022	2,799	-7.4%
Percent population under age 18	28.2%	21.6%	-23.4%
Percent minority population	1.2%	1.4%	17.0%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.2%	1.4%	10.9%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	8.5%	12.7%	50.1%
Percent children in poverty	20.6%	10.3%	-50.1%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$24,726	$28,252	14.3%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.3%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.1	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.1 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	88.9%	94.6%

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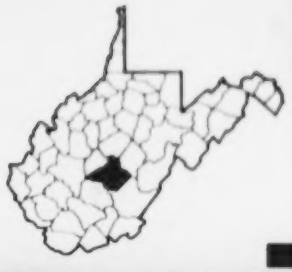
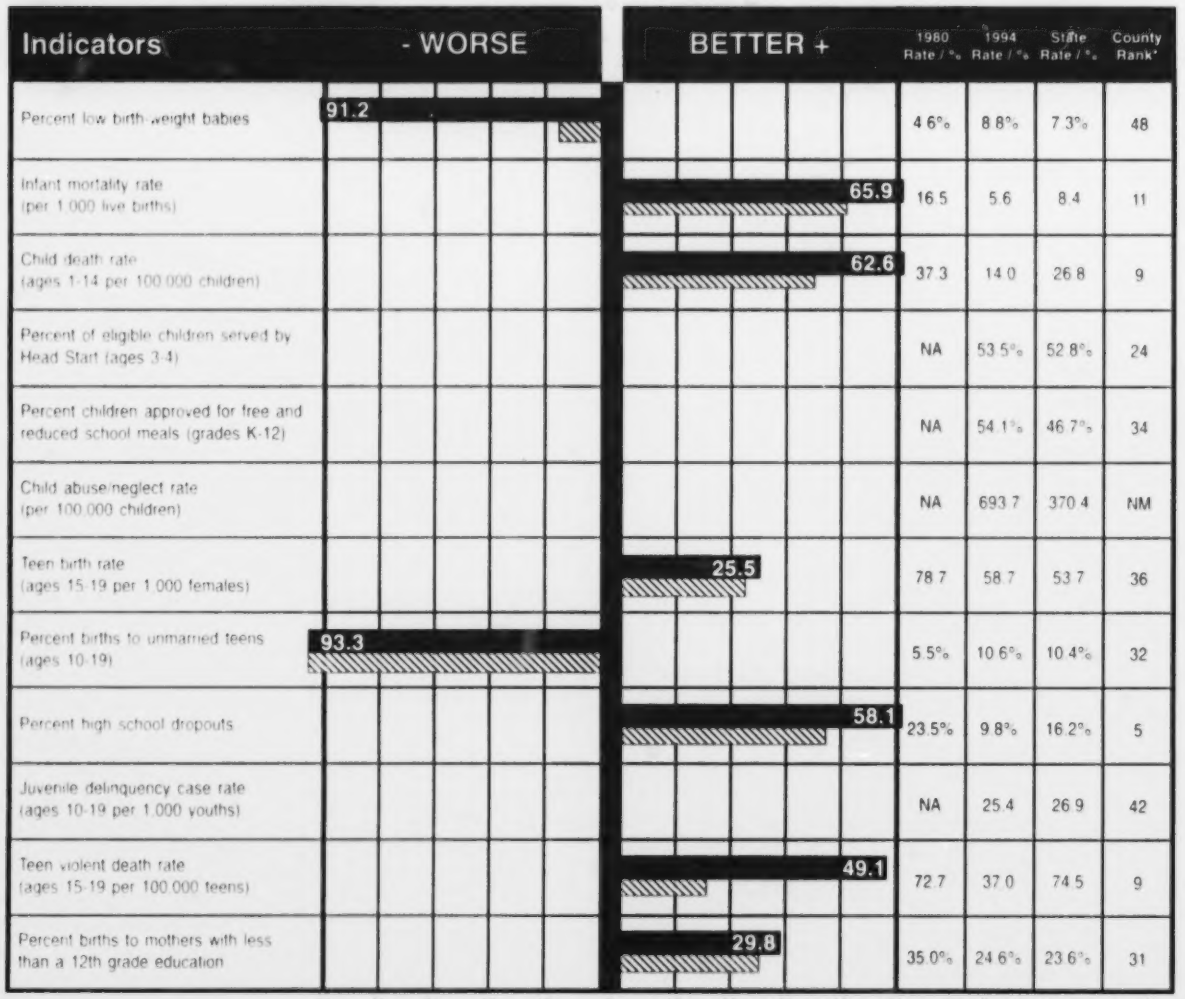


Nicholas County

Composite County Rank 22

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

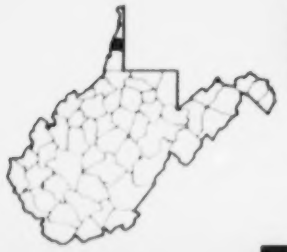


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	28,126	27,381	-2.6%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,356	$5,315	58.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.7%	19.6%	126.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	69.6%	87.1%	25.1%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	6,103	3,493	-42.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,989	4,379	46.5%
Unemployment rate	11.9%	13.4%	12.6%
Total population under age 18	9,062	7,190	-20.7%
Percent population under age 18	32.2%	26.3%	-18.5%
Percent minority population	0.3%	0.6%	113.7%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.9%	NM

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.5%	16.0%	52.6%
Percent children in poverty	21.0%	32.4%	54.0%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$23,688	$21,390	-9.7%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.2%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.8	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.5 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	97.1%	94.6%

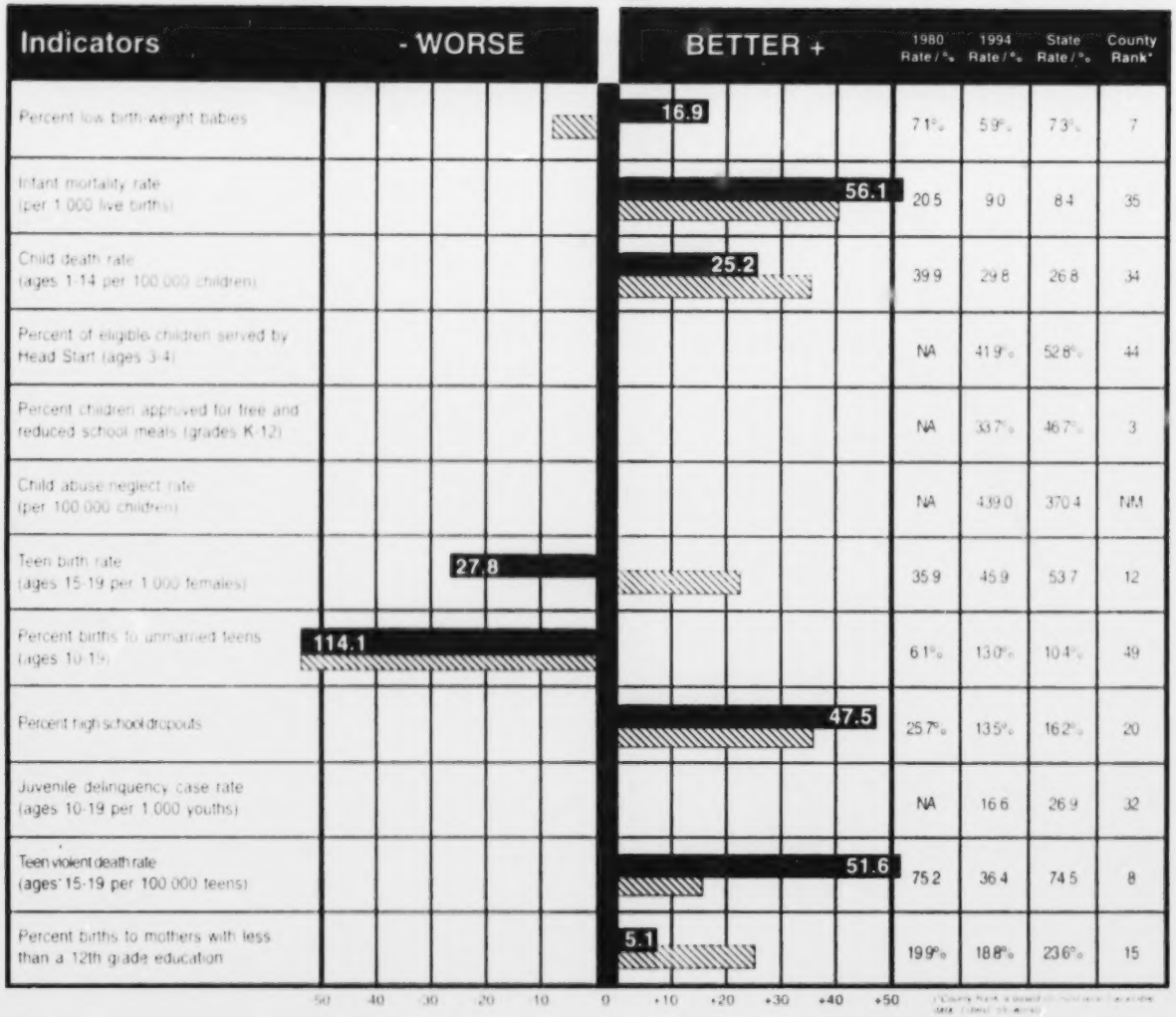


Ohio County

Composite County Rank 10

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.



Indicators	1980 Rate / %	1994 Rate / %	State Rate / %	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	7.1%	5.9%	7.3%	7
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	20.5	9.0	8.4	35
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	39.9	29.8	26.8	34
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	41.9%	52.8%	44
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	33.7%	46.7%	3
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	439.0	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	35.9	45.9	53.7	12
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	6.1%	13.0%	10.4%	49
Percent high school dropouts	25.7%	13.5%	16.2%	20
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	16.6	26.9	32
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	75.2	36.4	74.5	8
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	19.9%	18.8%	23.6%	15

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	61,389	50,019	-18.5%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,369	$5,247	20.1%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	10.0%	15.7%	56.1%
Percent births with early prenatal care	81.7%	81.6%	-0.2%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	10,351	7,369	-28.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	18,506	20,663	11.7%
Unemployment rate	6.1%	7.6%	62%
Total population under age 18	14,700	10,467	-28.8%
Percent population under age 18	23.9%	20.9%	-12.6%
Percent minority population	4.1%	4.5%	9.7%
Percent minority population under age 18	5.9%	6.7%	14.8%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	15.8%	21.2%	34.5%
Percent children in poverty	14.7%	20.8%	41.8%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$29,511	$30,037	1.8%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.0%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.2	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	18.2 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	91.8%	94.6%

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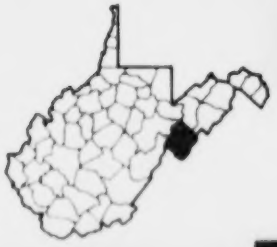
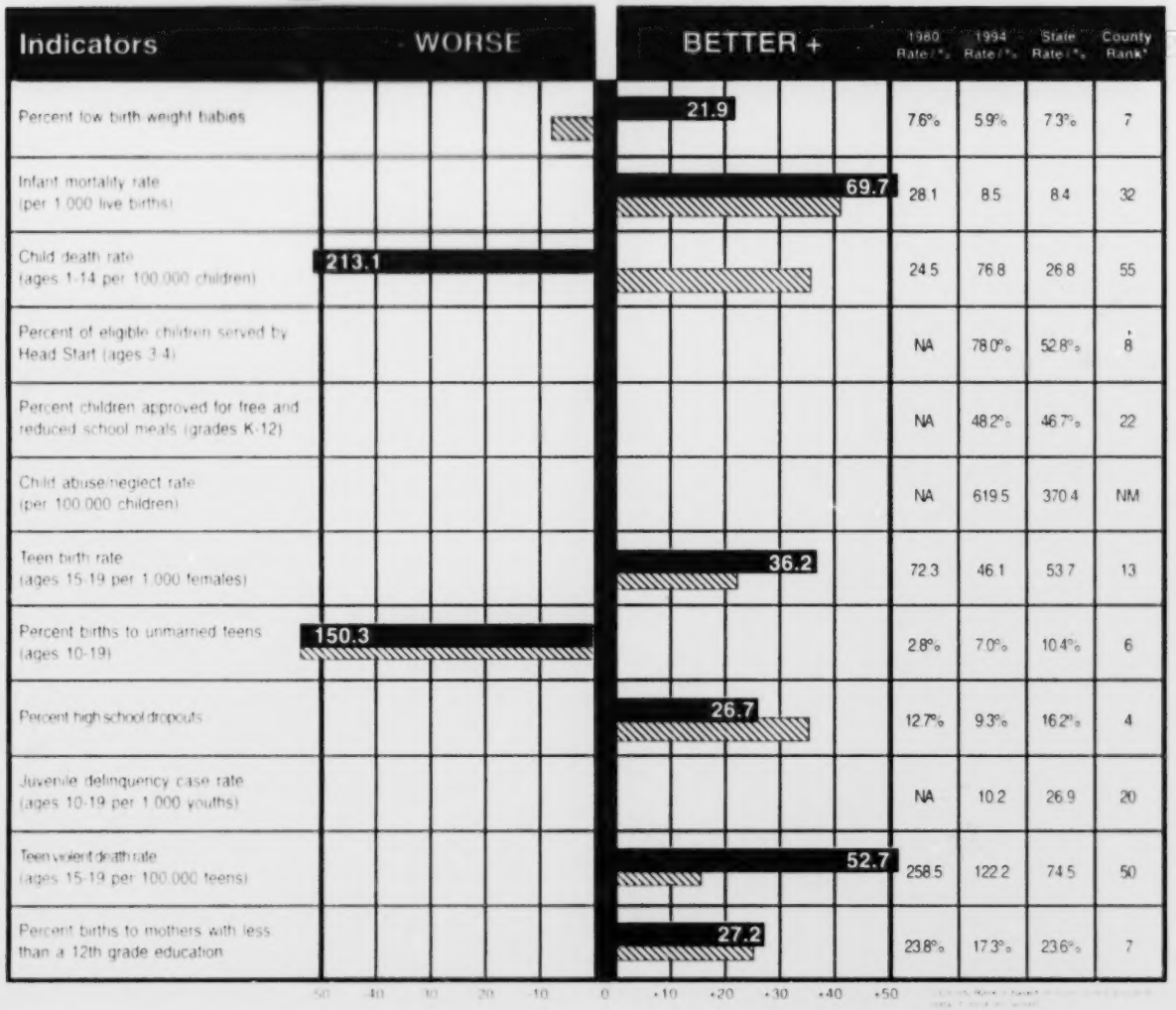


Pendleton County

Composite County Rank 20

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



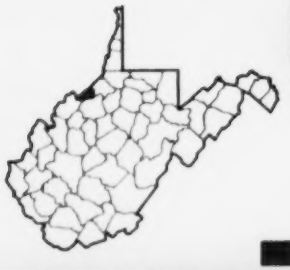
Background Facts

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	7,910	8,055	1.8%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,996	$5,490	37.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	9.4%	6.1%	-35.2%
Percent births with early prenatal care	73.7%	93.4%	26.7%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	913	1,251	37.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	682	1,168	71.3%
Unemployment rate	10.6%	6.9%	-34.9%
Total population under age 18	2,151	1,836	-14.6%
Percent population under age 18	27.2%	22.8%	-16.2%
Percent minority population	2.5%	2.6%	6.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	3.2%	3.4%	7.0%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	9.4%	11.4%	20.9%
Percent children in poverty	26.3%	16.9%	-35.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$19,795	$22,500	13.7%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	93.3%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.8	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.2 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	99.6%	94.6%

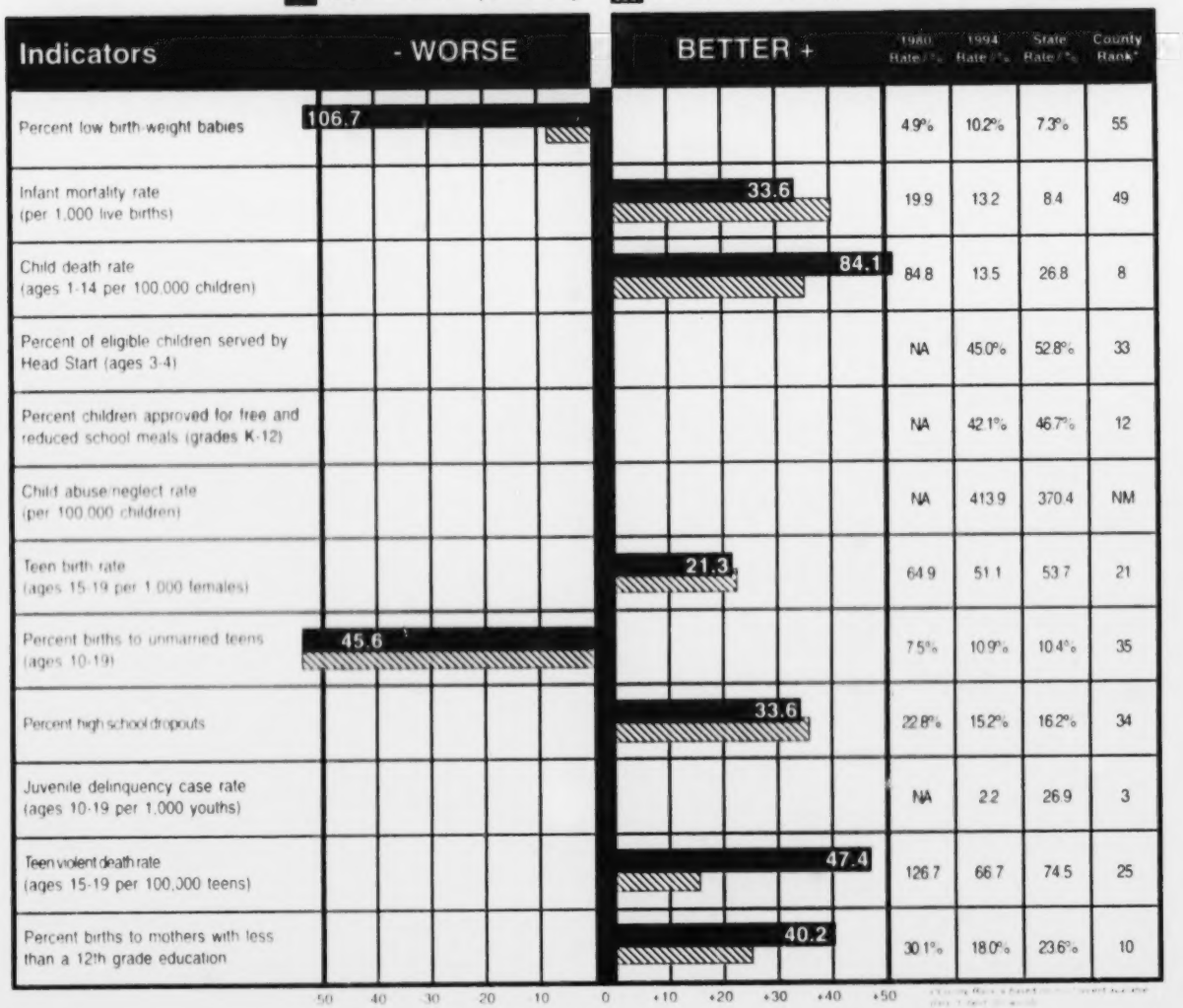


Pleasants County

Composite County Rank 26

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

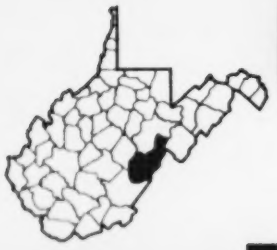


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	8,236	7,495	-9.0%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$5,377	$6,665	24.0%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	5.2%	11.2%	114.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	69.3%	95.5%	37.9%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	2,610	1,385	-46.9%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	892	1,218	36.5%
Unemployment rate	8.5%	11.1%	30.6%
Total population under age 18	2,510	1,840	-26.7%
Percent population under age 18	30.5%	24.5%	-19.4%
Percent minority population	0.4%	0.5%	36.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.3%	0.5%	53.5%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	11.1%	16.8%	51.3%
Percent children in poverty	16.5%	25.2%	52.4%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$28,455	$26,110	-8.2%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.6%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	15.8	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	20.7 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	97.0%	94.6%

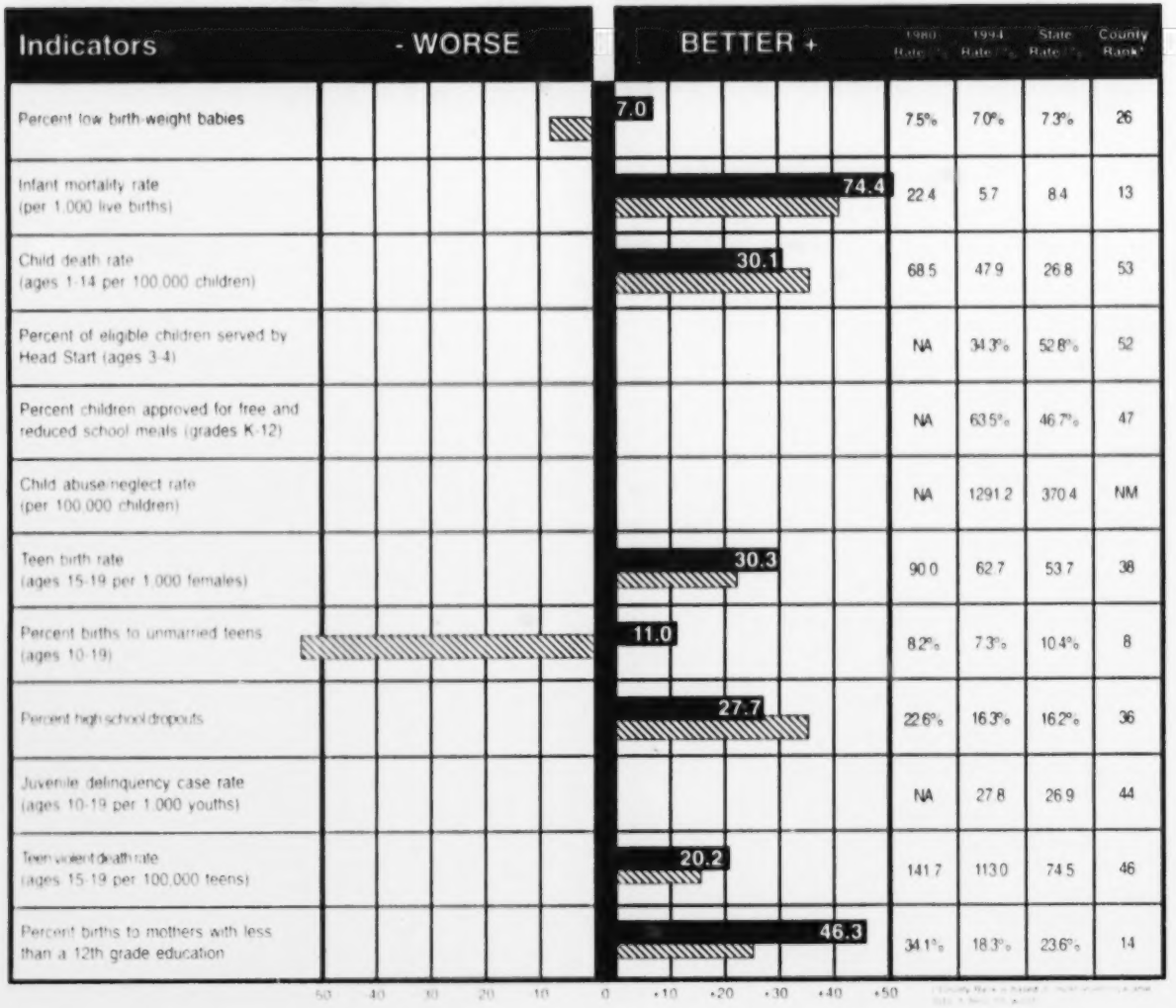


Pocahontas County

Composite County Rank 39

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

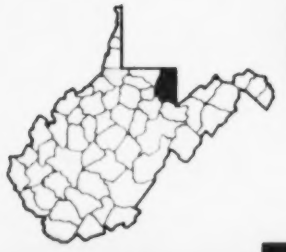


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	9,919	9,040	-8.9%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,496	$5,753	28.0%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.7%	8.4%	-3.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	55.9%	90.8%	62.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,184	1,452	22.6%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,252	2,266	81.0%
Unemployment rate	11.2%	13.8%	23.2%
Total population under age 18	2,738	1,990	-27.3%
Percent population under age 18	27.6%	22.0%	-20.3%
Percent minority population	1.1%	1.3%	21.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.3%	1.3%	282.2%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	9.4%	15.1%	60.4%
Percent children in poverty	13.3%	26.3%	97.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$23,045	$20,595	-10.6%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	93.5%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	15.0	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	17.0 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	96.5%	94.6%



Preston County

Composite County Rank 35

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change | Patterned bars indicate state percent change

Indicators	- WORSE / BETTER +	1980 Rate (%)	1994 Rate (%)	State Rate (%)	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	17.5	8.0%	9.4%	7.3%	53
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	11.6	13.6	15.2	8.4	52
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	50.9	52.9	26.0	26.8	25
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)		NA	66.5%	52.8%	16
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)		NA	59.4%	46.7%	44
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)		NA	50.7	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	32.9	77.0	51.7	53.7	22
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	122.0	3.9%	8.7%	10.4%	18
Percent high school dropouts	44.4	25.3%	14.1%	16.2%	26
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)		NA	6.2	26.9	11
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	31.2	144.9	99.7	74.5	40
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	37.0	30.1%	19.0%	23.6%	16

-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50

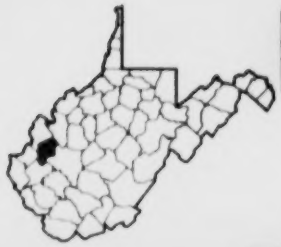
*County Rank is based on most recent available data. 1=best, 55=worst.

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Total population	30,460	29,834	-2.1%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,690	$5,029	36.3%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	9.5%	14.8%	55.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	67.9%	89.8%	32.1%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	3,600	3,254	-9.6%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,289	3,974	73.6%
Unemployment rate	10.8%	9.5%	-12.0%
Total population under age 18	9,392	7,704	-18.0%
Percent population under age 18	30.8%	25.8%	-16.3%
Percent minority population	0.5%	0.7%	52.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.5%	0.9%	88.2%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	9.3%	13.0%	40.7%
Percent children in poverty	22.7%	22.7%	0.1%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$23,414	$23,222	-0.8%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	94.5%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.5	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	17.5 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	96.6%	94.6%

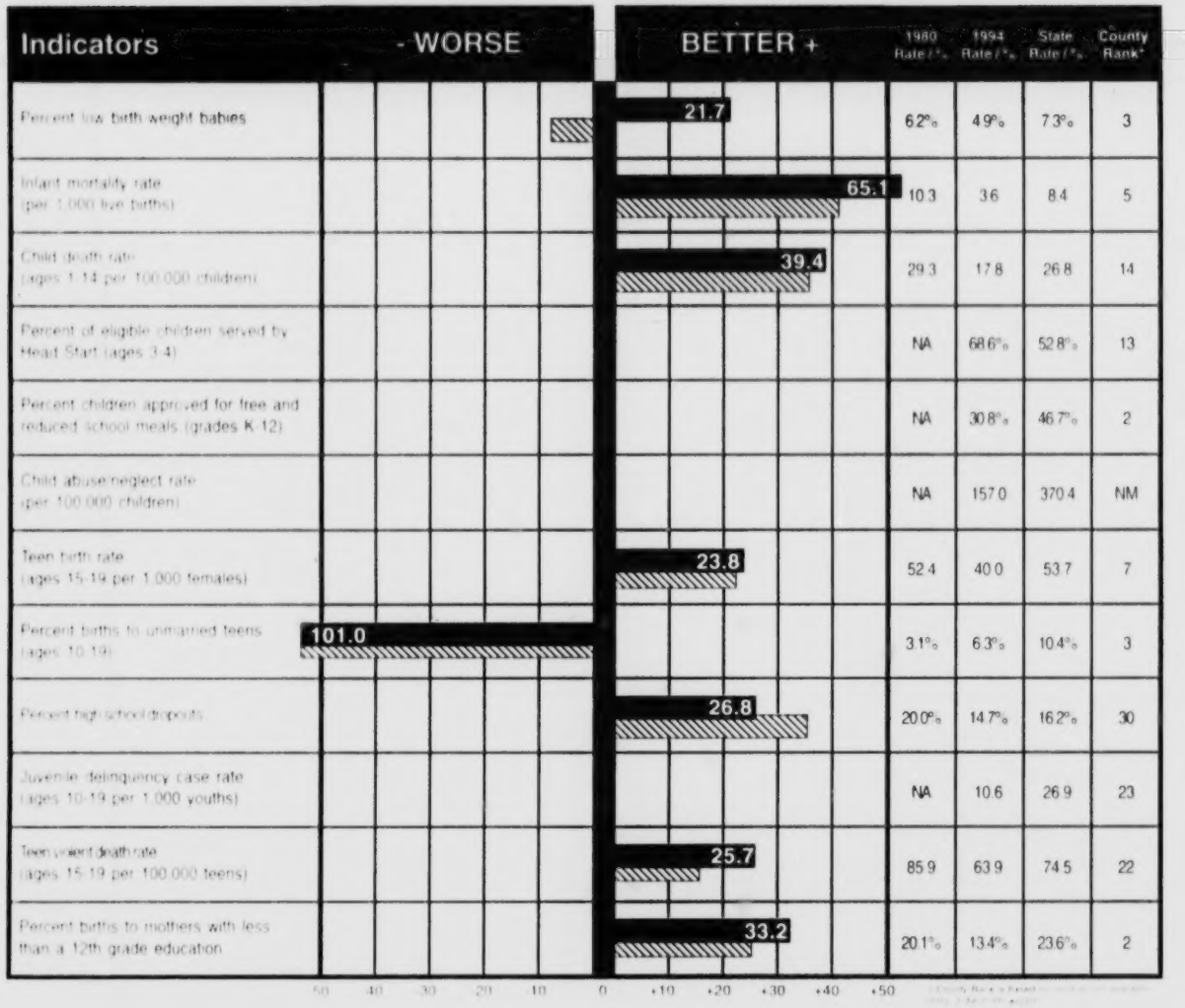


Putnam County

Composite County Rank 1

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

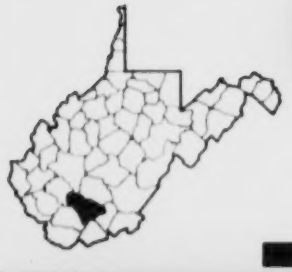


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	38,181	47,965	25.6%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,725	$4,966	33.3%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	4.7%	8.2%	73.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	77.7%	90.7%	16.7%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	3,946	6,443	63.3%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	3,772	9,630	155.3%
Unemployment rate	10.5%	7.0%	-33.3%
Total population under age 18	11,616	12,223	5.2%
Percent population under age 18	30.4%	25.5%	-16.2%
Percent minority population	0.4%	1.1%	148.7%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.6%	1.5%	151.6%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	8.4%	13.0%	54.5%
Percent children in poverty	11.4%	14.2%	24.8%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$30,877	$31,448	1.8%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	93.5%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.6	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.1 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	96.4%	94.6%

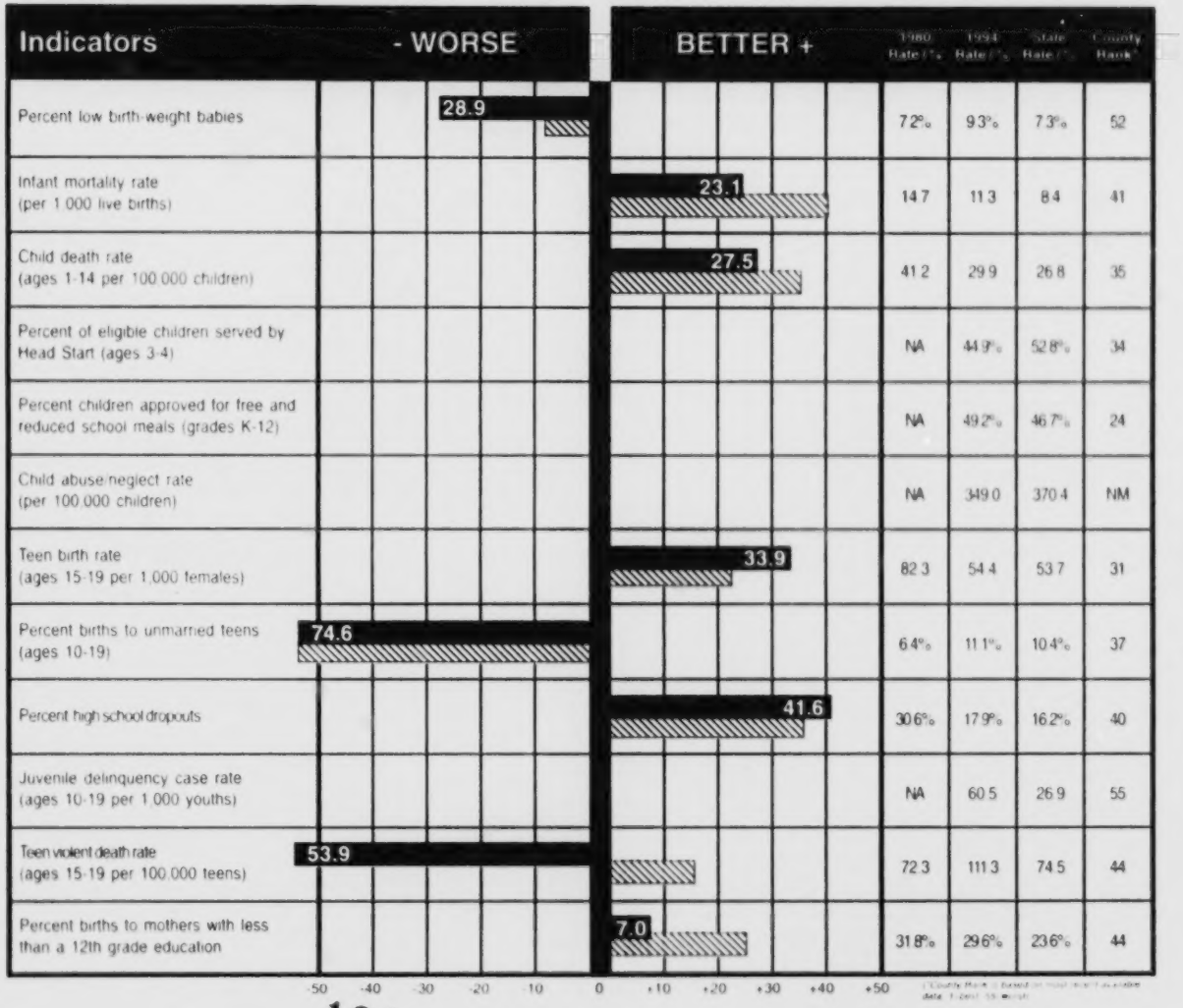


Raleigh County

Composite County Rank 53

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

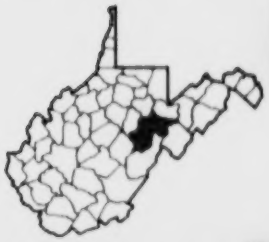
	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	86,821	78,143	-10.0%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,502	$5,230	49.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.2%	19.2%	133.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	45.0%	87.1%	93.6%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	11,798	8,277	-29.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	14,292	19,369	35.5%
Unemployment rate	9.9%	9.6%	-3.0%
Total population under age 18	26,270	19,448	-26.0%
Percent population under age 18	30.3%	24.9%	-17.7%
Percent minority population	8.5%	8.9%	3.7%
Percent minority population under age 18	9.2%	10.7%	16.2%

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.5%	17.8%	69.0%
Percent children in poverty	16.0%	28.8%	80.3%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$27,298	$24,391	-10.7%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	90.7%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	18.8	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.8 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	97.2%	94.6%

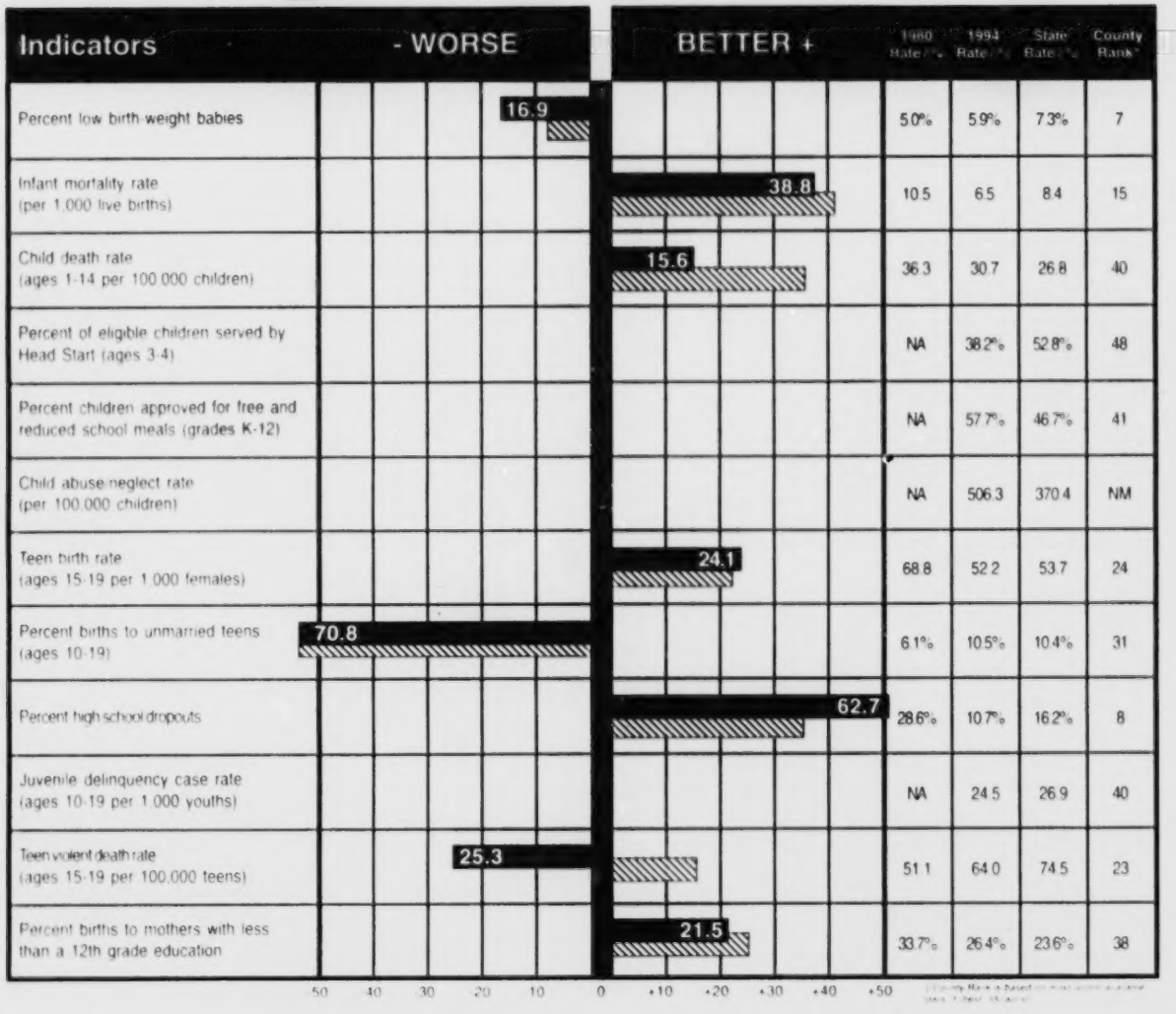


Randolph County

Composite County Rank 21

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

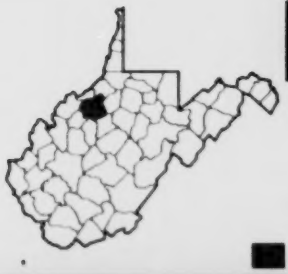


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	28,734	28,560	-0.6%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,792	$5,281	39.3%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.2%	12.8%	56.1%
Percent births with early prenatal care	68.1%	81.8%	20.1%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	4,082	3,802	-6.9%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	5,241	7,096	35.4%
Unemployment rate	9.8%	10.8%	10.2%
Total population under age 18	8,071	6,550	-18.8%
Percent population under age 18	28.1%	22.9%	-18.4%
Percent minority population	1.2%	1.7%	38.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.7%	1.6%	117.7%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.8%	16.6%	53.8%
Percent children in poverty	21.0%	29.9%	42.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$23,483	$21,522	-8.4%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	93.7%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.8	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.2 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	83.9%	84.6%

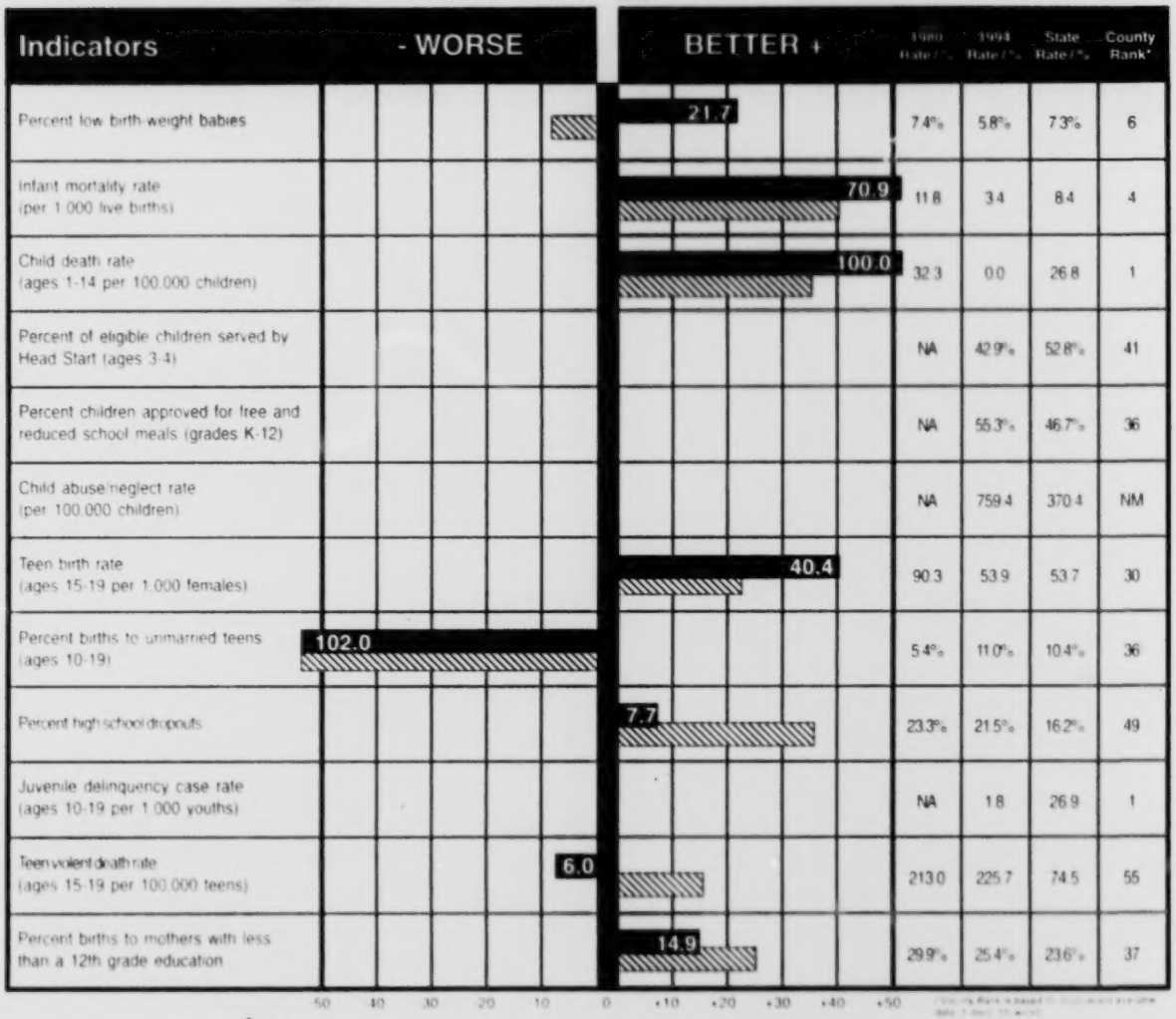


Ritchie County

Composite County Rank 29

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

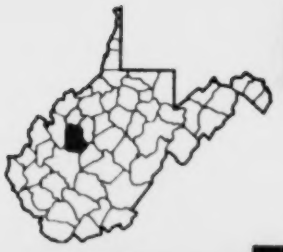
	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	11,442	10,289	-10.1%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,675	$6,276	70.8%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	6.1%	14.8%	141.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	67.6%	77.4%	14.5%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,877	2,153	14.7%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,008	1,418	40.7%
Unemployment rate	13.0%	15.2%	16.9%
Total population under age 18	3,258	2,394	-26.5%
Percent population under age 18	28.5%	23.3%	-18.3%
Percent minority population	0.2%	0.3%	50.1%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.4%	NM

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	11.7%	16.8%	43.6%
Percent children in poverty	22.0%	34.9%	58.4%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$21,023	$20,584	-2.1%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.3%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.1	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.8 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	95.2%	94.6%

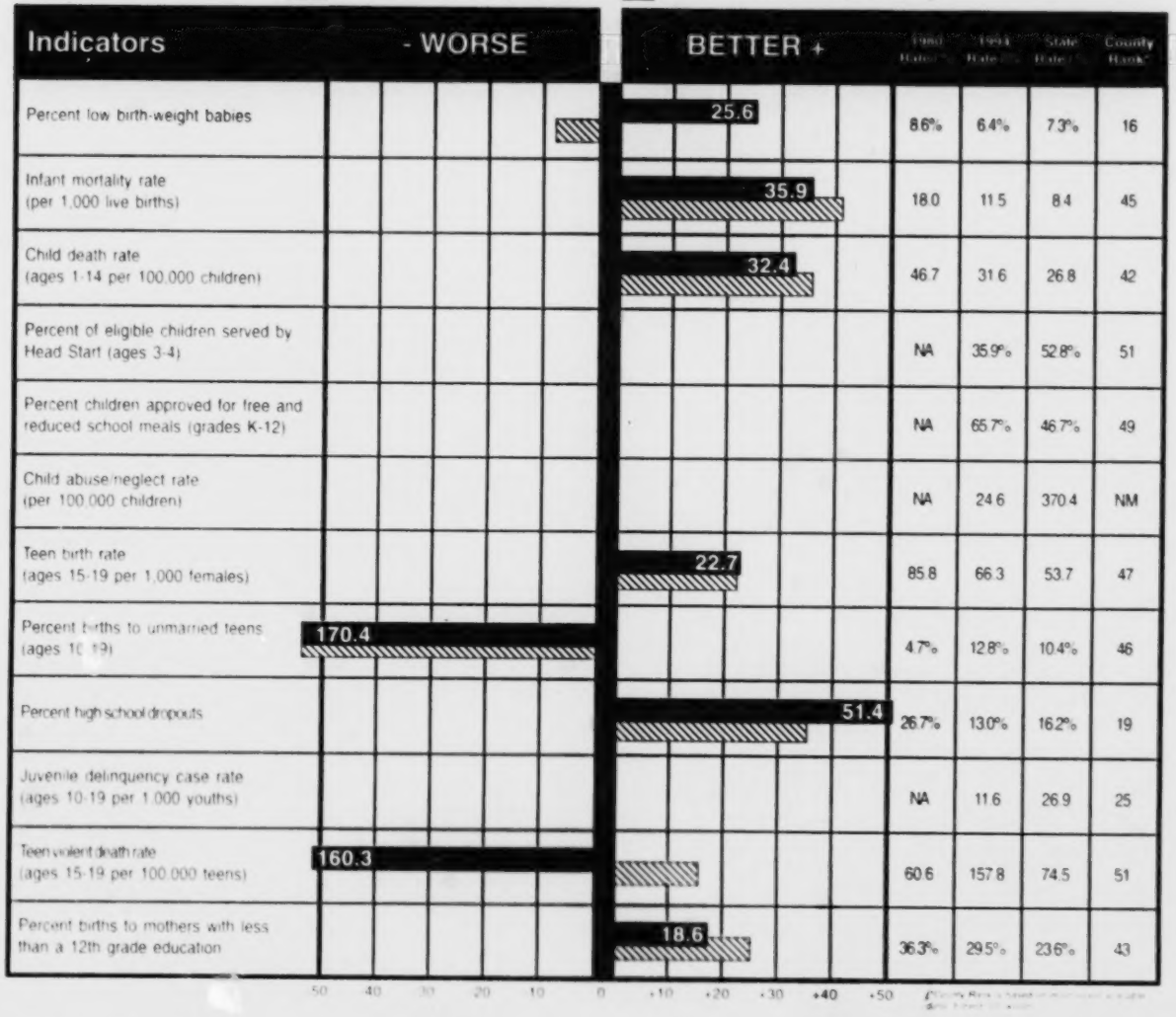


Roane County

Composite County Rank 48

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change


Indicators - WORSE
BETTER +
Percent low birth-weight babies
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)
Percent high school dropouts
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education
25.6
35.9
32.4
22.7
170.4
51.4
160.3
18.6
-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50

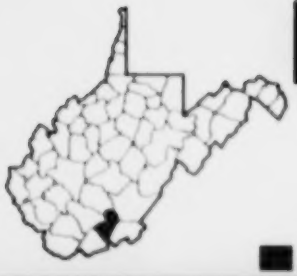
Indicators	1980 Rate	1994 Rate	State Rate	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	8.6%	6.4%	7.3%	16
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	18.0	11.5	8.4	45
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	46.7	31.6	26.8	42
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	35.9%	52.8%	51
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	65.7%	46.7%	49
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	24.6	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	85.8	66.3	53.7	47
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	4.7%	12.8%	10.4%	46
Percent high school dropouts	26.7%	13.0%	16.2%	19
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	11.6	26.9	25
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	60.6	157.8	74.5	51
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	36.3%	29.5%	23.6%	43

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	15,952	15,231	-4.5%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,131	$5,273	68.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.4%	18.1%	116.6%
Percent births with early prenatal care	62.5%	79.5%	27.2%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	2,276	2,613	14.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,641	2,053	25.1%
Unemployment rate	11.4%	13.8%	21.1%
Total population under age 18	4,493	3,856	-14.2%
Percent population under age 18	28.2%	25.3%	-10.1%
Percent minority population	0.9%	0.6%	-32.6%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.6%	NM

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.4%	16.6%	58.8%
Percent children in poverty	20.4%	38.2%	87.3%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$21,058	$17,898	-15.0%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.8%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.3	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.6 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	98.1%	94.6%

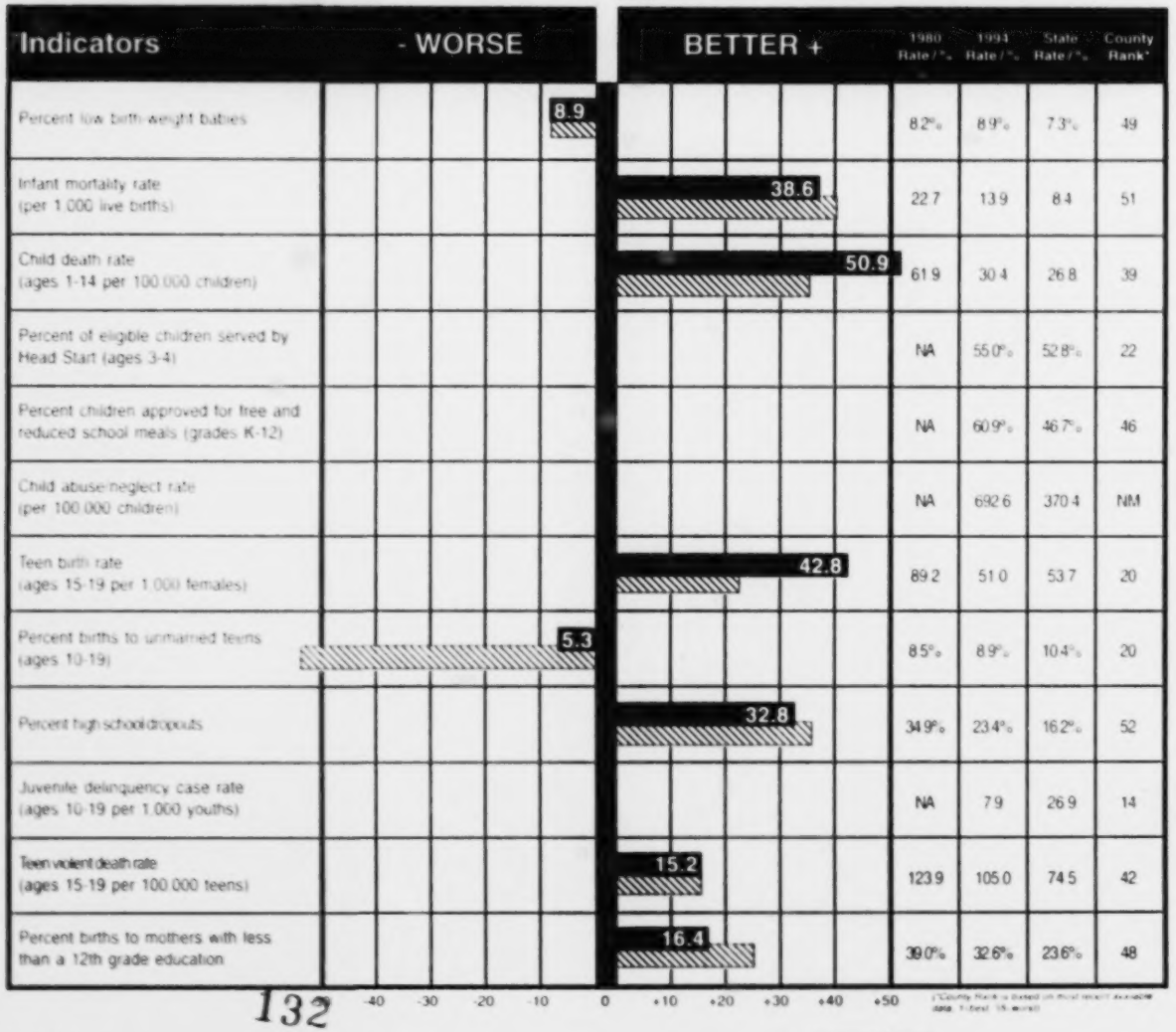


Summers County

Composite County Rank 50

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.



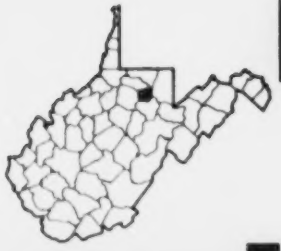
*County Rank is based on most recent available data. 1 (best) - 55 (worst)

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	15,875	14,134	-11.0%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,104	$5,970	45.5%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	16.3%	19.6%	20.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	53.5%	86.9%	62.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	860	682	-20.7%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,513	1,742	15.1%
Unemployment rate	13.1%	12.1%	-7.6%
Total population under age 18	4,304	3,129	-27.3%
Percent population under age 18	27.1%	22.1%	-18.3%
Percent minority population	7.8%	7.1%	-9.0%
Percent minority population under age 18	4.2%	4.1%	-3.3%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	14.2%	17.4%	22.6%
Percent children in poverty	29.3%	32.3%	10.3%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$20,426	$20,076	-1.7%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.2%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.2	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	19.2 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	93.9%	94.6%

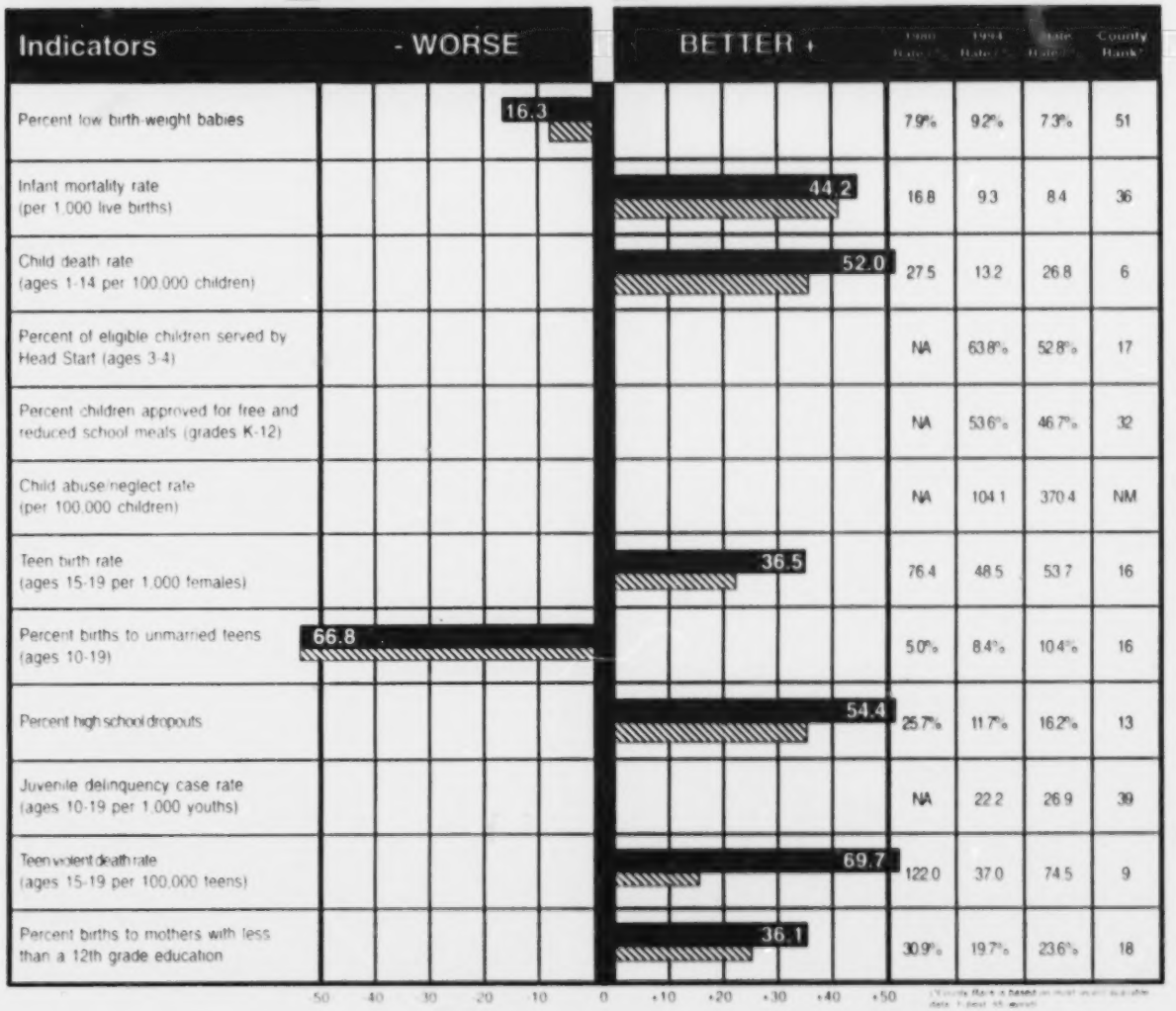


Taylor County

Composite County Rank 15

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

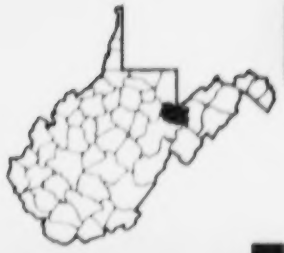


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	16,584	15,259	-8.0%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,798	$5,600	47.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	10.8%	17.2%	59.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	72.7%	81.7%	12.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,608	1,552	-3.5%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,322	1,496	13.2%
Unemployment rate	11.7%	9.5%	-18.8%
Total population under age 18	4,900	3,671	-25.1%
Percent population under age 18	29.5%	24.1%	-18.6%
Percent minority population	1.0%	1.3%	28.8%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.9%	1.5%	63.8%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	12.0%	16.4%	36.9%
Percent children in poverty	19.6%	29.4%	50.0%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$23,729	$22,357	-5.8%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	94.3%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	18.6	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.3 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	84.9%	94.6%

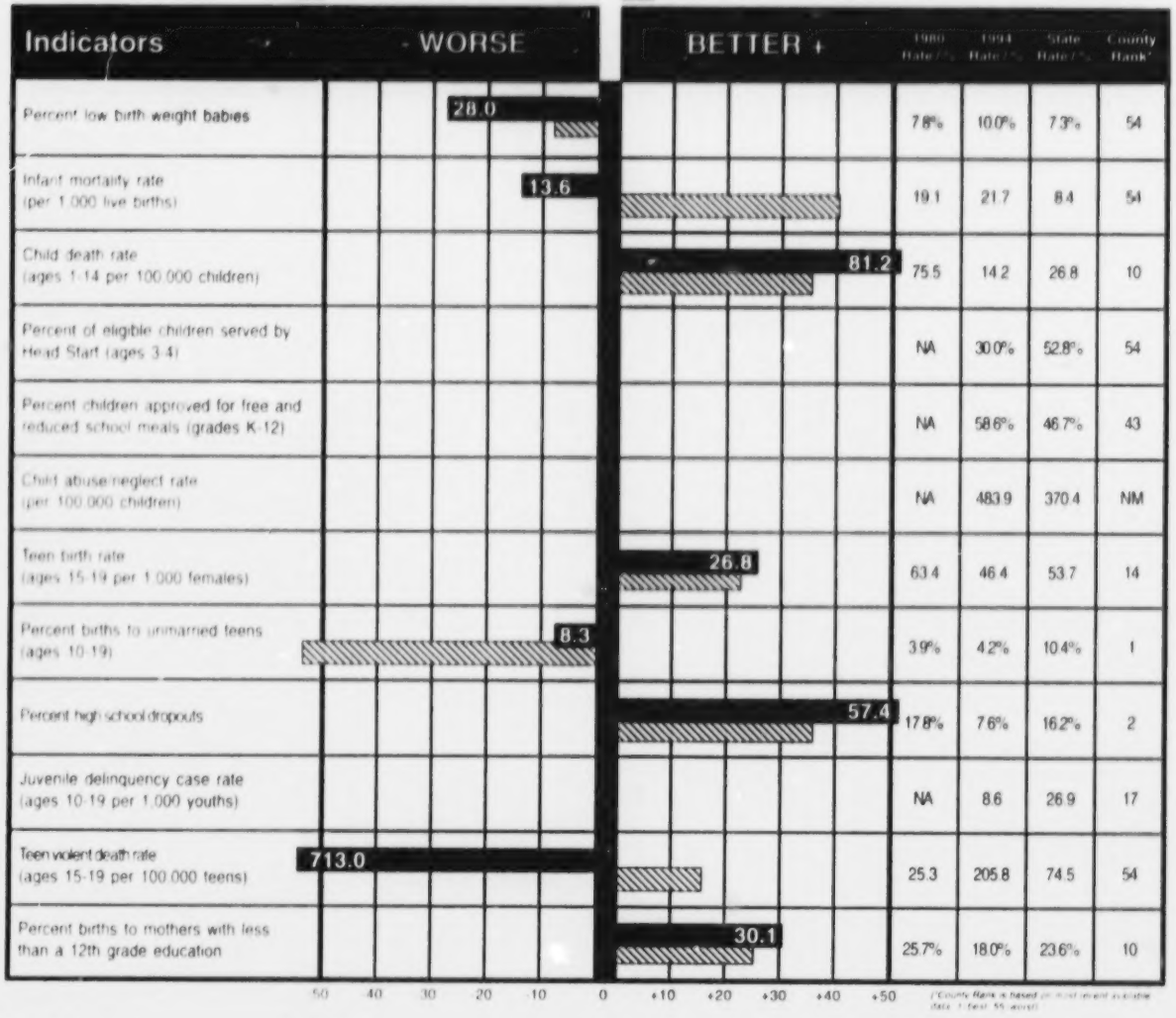


Tucker County

Composite County Rank 32

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.



Indicators	1980 Rate/%	1994 Rate/%	State Rate/%	County Rank*
Percent low birth weight babies	7.8%	10.0%	7.3%	54
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	19.1	21.7	8.4	54
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	75.5	14.2	26.8	10
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)	NA	30.0%	52.8%	54
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)	NA	58.6%	46.7%	43
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)	NA	483.9	370.4	NM
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	63.4	46.4	53.7	14
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	3.9%	4.2%	10.4%	1
Percent high school dropouts	17.8%	7.6%	16.2%	2
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)	NA	8.6	26.9	17
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	25.3	205.8	74.5	54
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education	25.7%	18.0%	23.6%	10

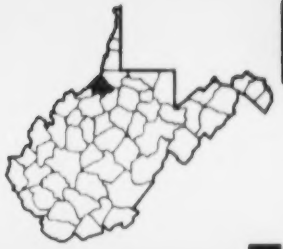
*County Rank is based on most recent available data. 1 (best) - 55 (worst)

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Total population	8,675	7,841	-9.6%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,452	$5,439	57.6%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	5.2%	8.1%	54.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	72.0%	81.4%	13.1%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,104	1,416	28.3%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,016	1,631	60.5%
Unemployment rate	9.3%	12.9%	38.7%
Total population under age 18	2,497	1,783	-28.6%
Percent population under age 18	28.8%	22.7%	-21.0%
Percent minority population	0.3%	0.5%	51.6%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.8%	NM

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.0%	11.3%	13.8%
Percent children in poverty	20.7%	22.2%	7.5%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$21,317	$22,825	7.1%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	93.2%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	19.0	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.3 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	96.2%	94.6%

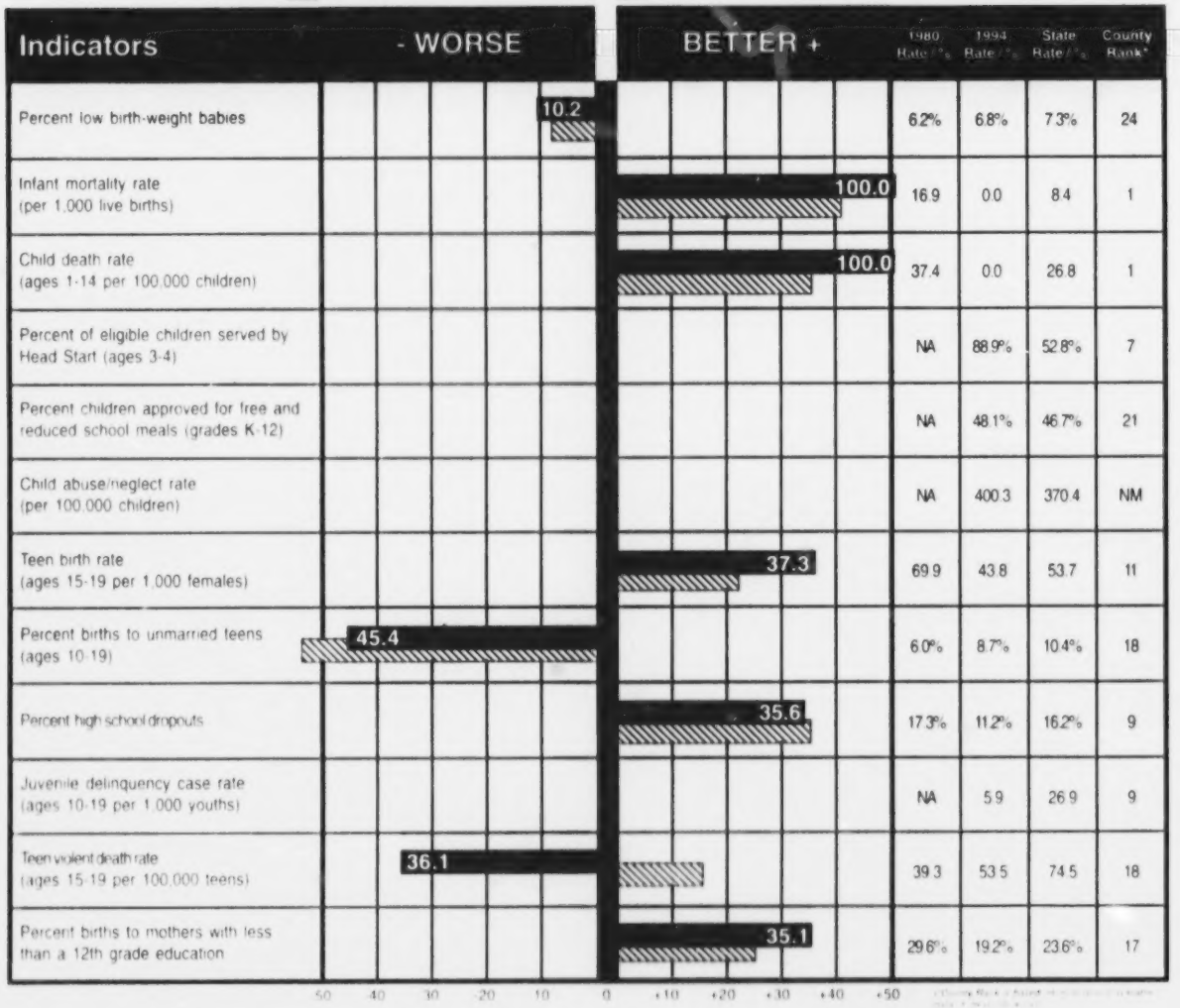


Tyler County

Composite County Rank 2

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

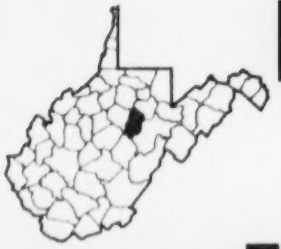


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	11,320	10,034	-11.4%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,489	$6,151	76.3%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	6.3%	13.8%	117.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	75.4%	82.1%	8.8%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,446	1,414	-2.2%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	815	1000	22.7%
Unemployment rate	9.3%	8.4%	-9.7%
Total population under age 18	3,515	2,434	-30.8%
Percent population under age 18	31.1%	24.3%	-21.9%
Percent minority population	0.2%	0.6%	179.6%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.6%	NM

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	8.7%	14.1%	61.1%
Percent children in poverty	17.3%	20.5%	18.3%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$28,494	$25,462	-10.6%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	93.3%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	13.6	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	14.6 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	95.7%	94.6%

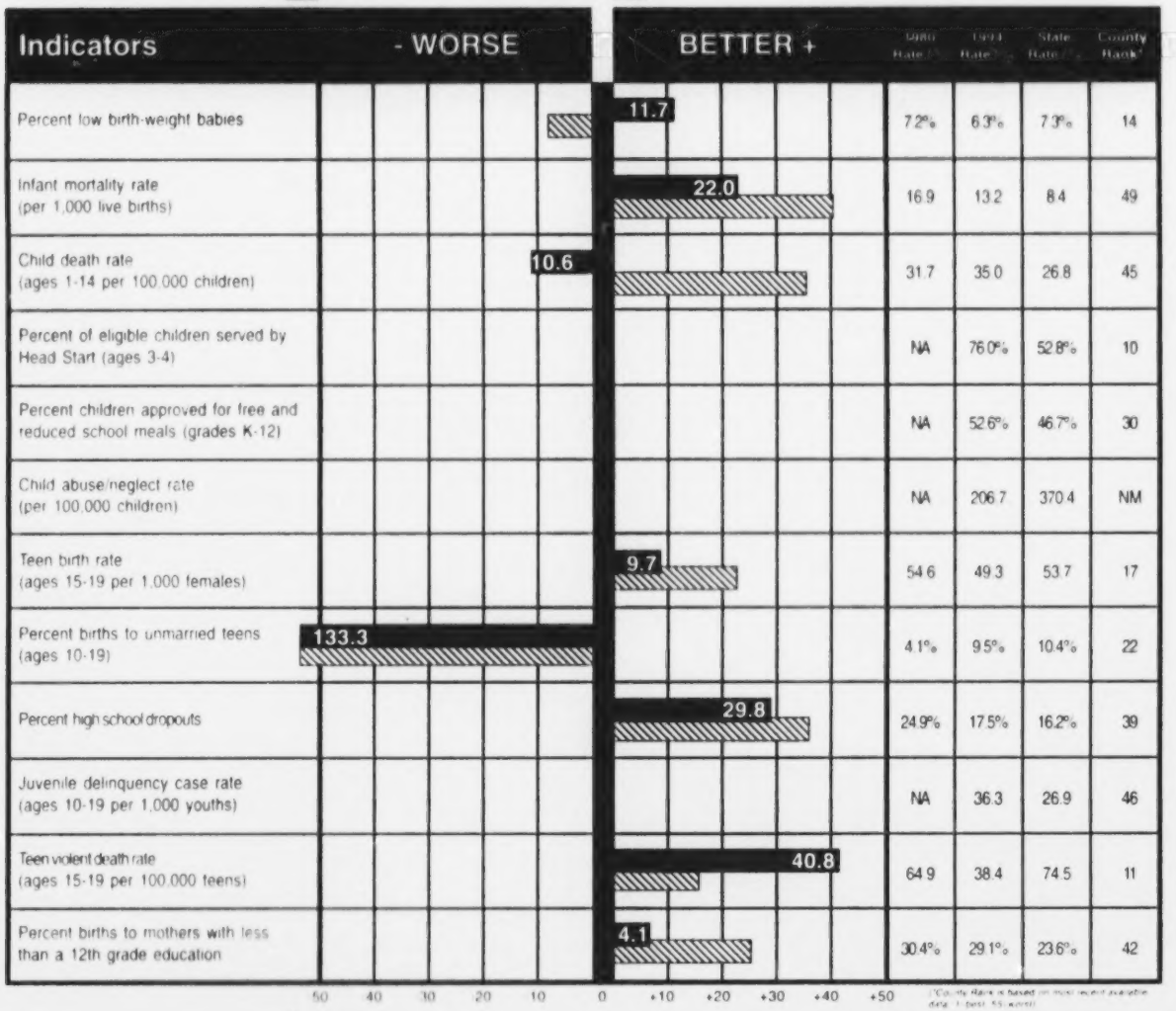


Upshur County

Composite County Rank 37

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on most recent available data (1 best, 55 worst)

Background Facts

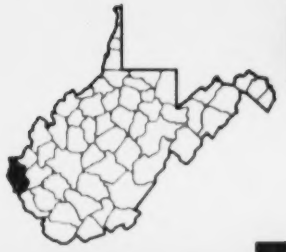
Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	23,427	23,682	1.1%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,516	$5,052	43.7%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	6.0%	18.4%	206.1%
Percent births with early prenatal care	67.9%	80.5%	18.5%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	3,824	3,439	-10.1%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	3,783	4,780	26.4%
Unemployment rate	7.9%	10.2%	29.1%
Total population under age 18	6,630	5,701	-14.0%
Percent population under age 18	28.3%	24.1%	-14.9%
Percent minority population	0.8%	1.4%	77.7%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.5%	1.4%	148.7%

Background Facts

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	9.8%	16.3%	66.9%
Percent children in poverty	20.0%	30.0%	50.3%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$24,408	$22,267	-8.8%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.6%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	17.3	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.8 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	94.8%	94.6%

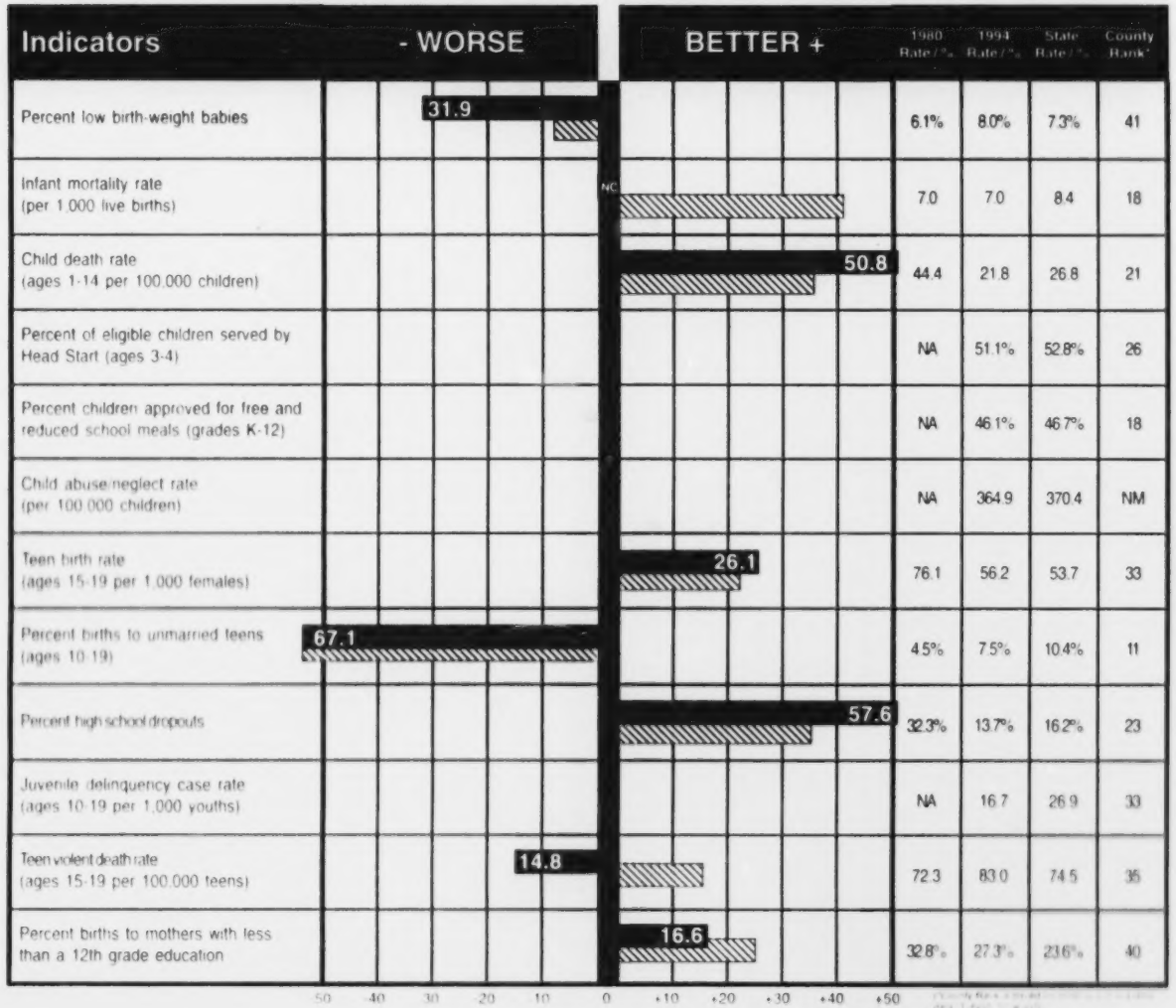


Wayne County

Composite County Rank 19

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

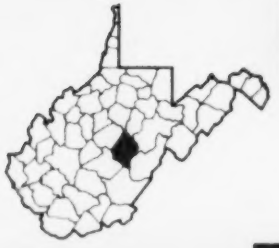


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	46,021	42,480	-7.7%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,420	$5,327	55.7%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.0%	15.6%	95.1%
Percent births with early prenatal care	69.5%	89.2%	28.5%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	3,815	4,283	12.3%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	3,067	5,207	69.8%
Unemployment rate	9.5%	9.2%	-3.2%
Total population under age 18	14,134	10,350	-26.8%
Percent population under age 18	30.7%	24.4%	-20.7%
Percent minority population	0.3%	0.6%	133.1%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.2%	0.7%	239.0%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.4%	15.5%	48.3%
Percent children in poverty	23.8%	28.5%	19.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$24,697	$23,525	-4.7%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	92.6%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	15.2	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.6 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	103.2%	94.6%

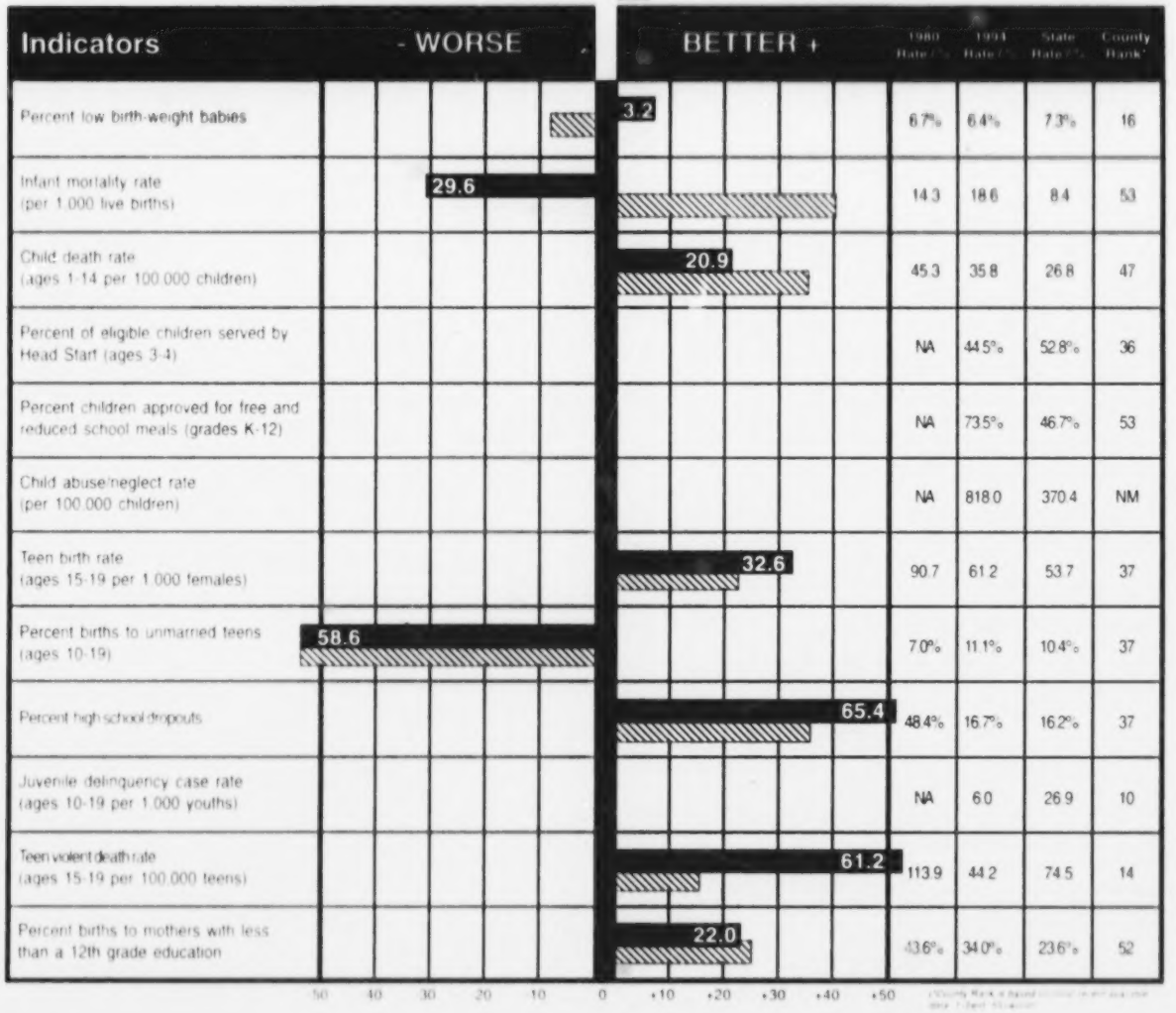


Webster County

Composite County Rank 49

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	12,245	10,417	-14.9%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,692	$5,548	50.3%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	19.3%	30.3%	57.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	76.1%	81.8%	7.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	921	1,229	33.4%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	808	1,087	34.5%
Unemployment rate	15.0%	16.1%	7.3%
Total population under age 18	3,997	2,707	-32.3%
Percent population under age 18	32.6%	26.0%	-20.4%
Percent minority population	0.1%	0.5%	273.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.1%	0.7%	1,376.5%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	13.2%	19.6%	49.2%
Percent children in poverty	36.0%	46.0%	27.8%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$17,917	$15,489	-13.6%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.1%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	15.5	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	16.2 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	88.9%	94.6%

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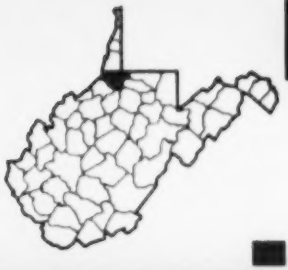
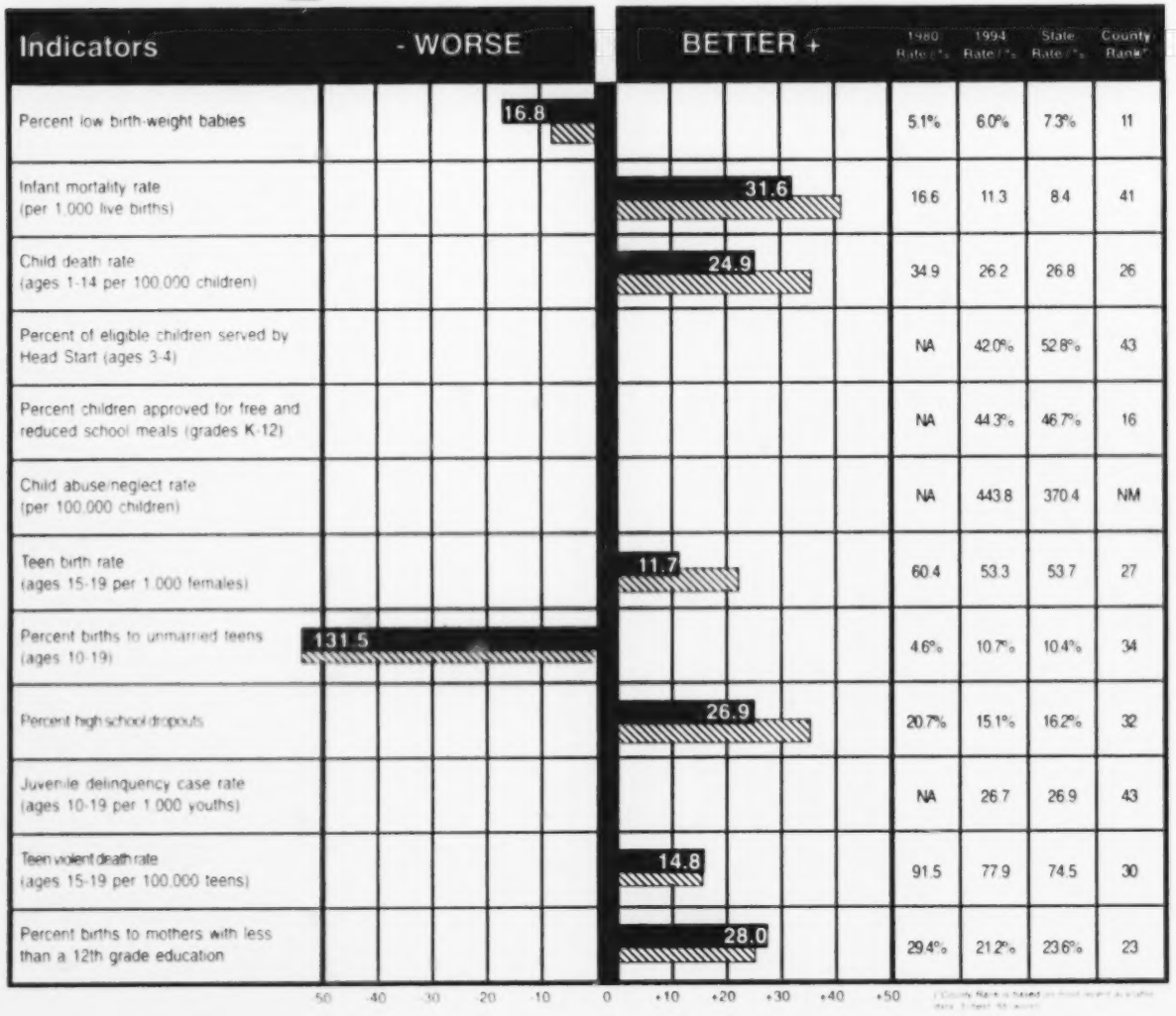


Wetzel County

Composite County Rank 25

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change

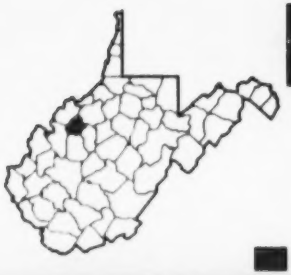


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	21,874	18,961	-13.3%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,541	$5,573	57.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.4%	16.6%	98.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	75.3%	81.8%	8.7%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,946	1,612	-17.2%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,703	3,554	31.5%
Unemployment rate	10.1%	10.9%	7.9%
Total population under age 18	6,698	4,636	-30.8%
Percent population under age 18	30.6%	24.5%	-20.2%
Percent minority population	0.3%	0.6%	66.8%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.6%	NM

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	11.4%	15.9%	39.2%
Percent children in poverty	13.7%	26.6%	94.0%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$30,437	$28,122	-7.6%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	94.2%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	14.6	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	15.9 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	95.1%	94.6%

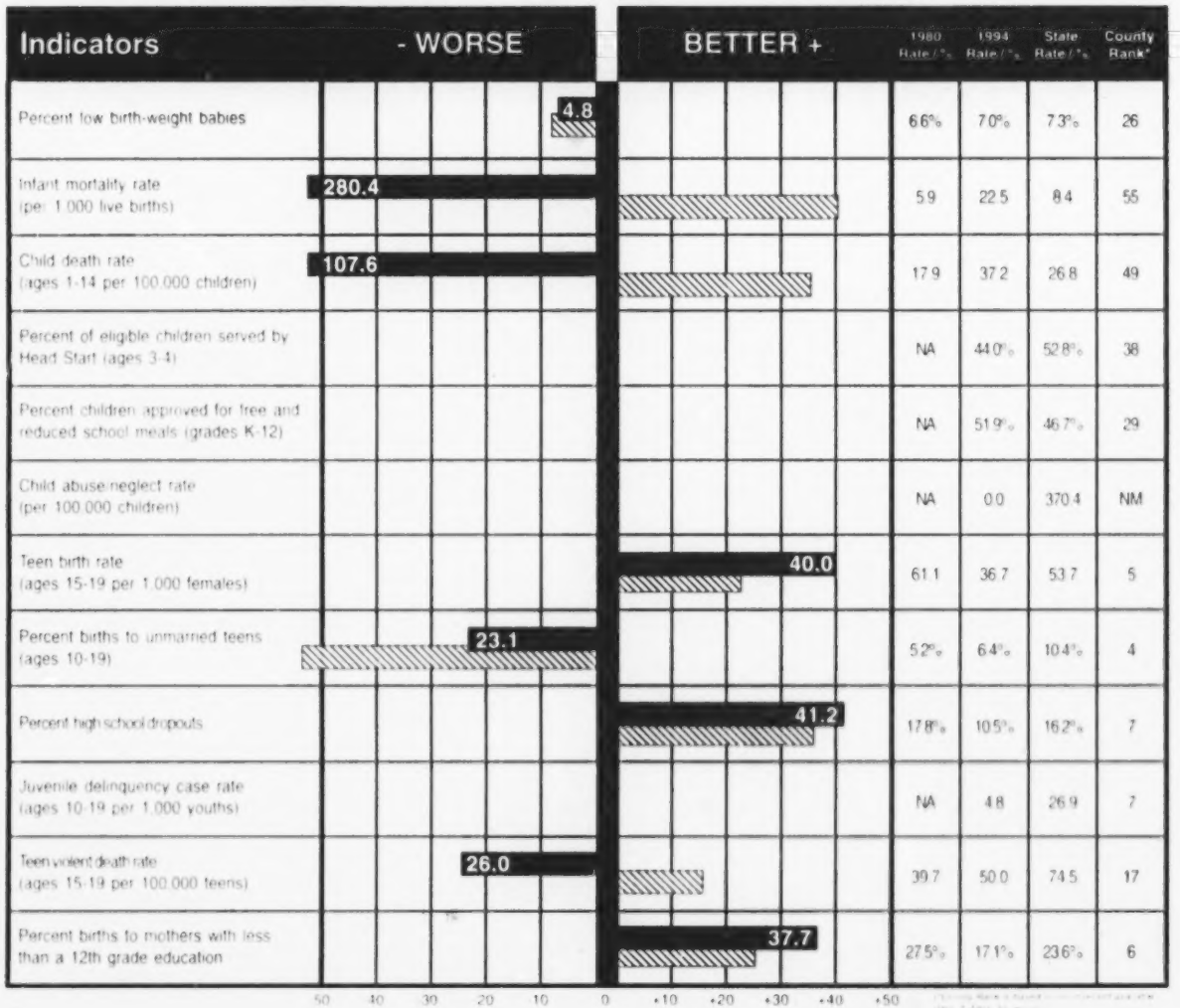


Wirt County

Composite County Rank 14

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.

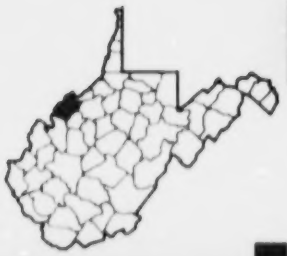


Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	4,922	5,444	10.6%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$4,063	$5,308	30.7%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	7.8%	16.6%	113.9%
Percent births with early prenatal care	66.2%	79.0%	19.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	338	441	30.5%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	246	409	66.3%
Unemployment rate	11.7%	15.2%	29.9%
Total population under age 18	1,508	1,396	-7.4%
Percent population under age 18	30.6%	25.6%	-16.3%
Percent minority population	0.3%	0.2%	-36.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.2%	NM

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	7.9%	14.3%	82.0%
Percent children in poverty	19.7%	24.9%	26.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$22,006	$21,193	-3.7%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	91.7%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	14.3	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	19.2 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	92.5%	84.6%

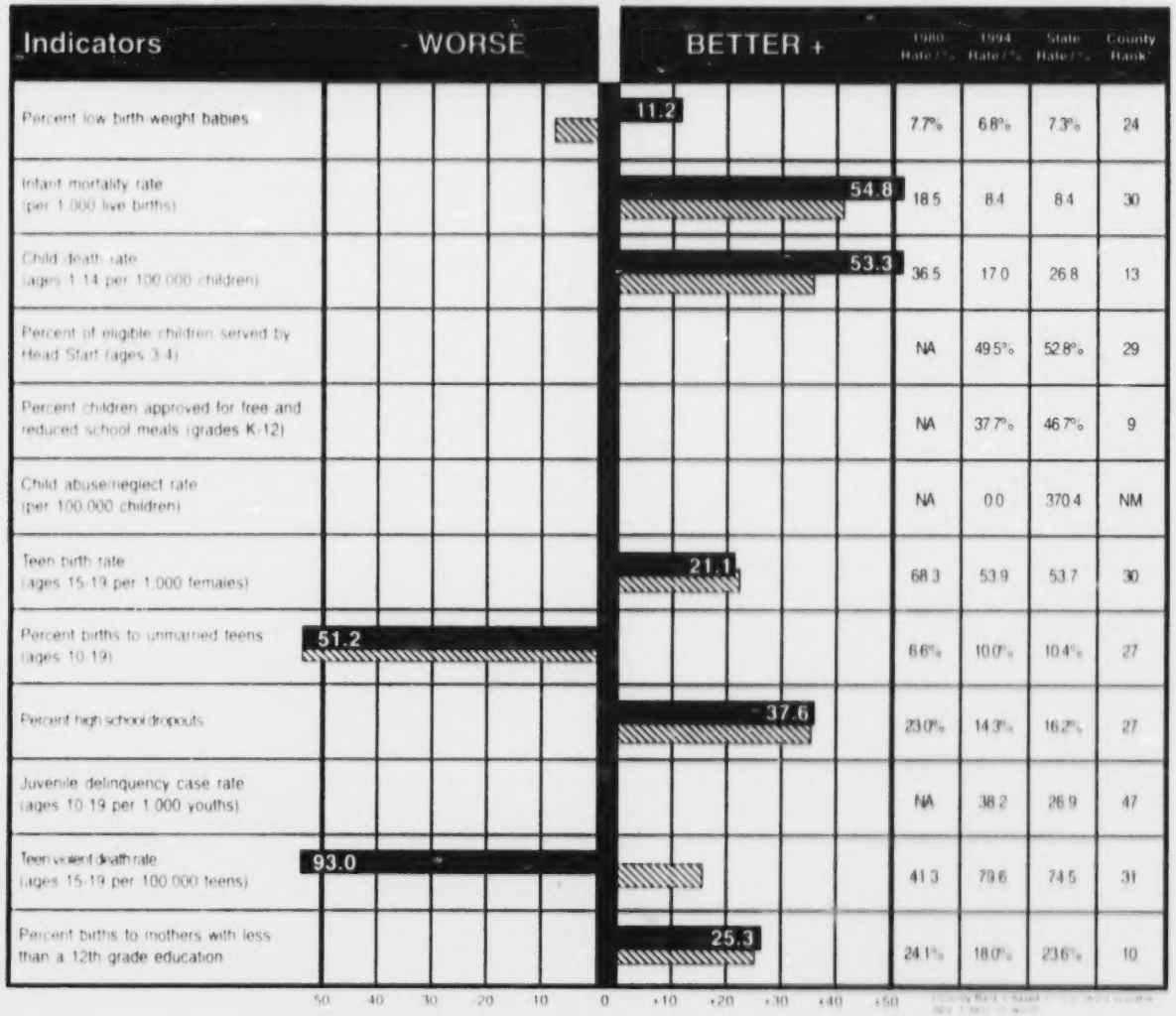


Wood County

Composite County Rank 16

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.



Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	93,648	88,004	-6.0%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,544	$5,147	45.2%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	7.5%	13.3%	78.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	74.9%	86.5%	15.6%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	18,139	16,103	-11.2%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	18,000	25,933	44.1%
Unemployment rate	9.1%	7.3%	-19.8%
Total population under age 18	26,934	20,546	-23.7%
Percent population under age 18	28.8%	23.3%	-18.8%
Percent minority population	1.2%	1.8%	46.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.4%	2.5%	77.2%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	12.6%	17.9%	42.4%
Percent children in poverty	14.7%	18.7%	26.9%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$29,494	$30,582	3.7%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	94.2%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	16.0	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	19.8 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	92.9%	94.6%

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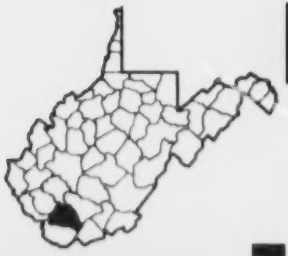
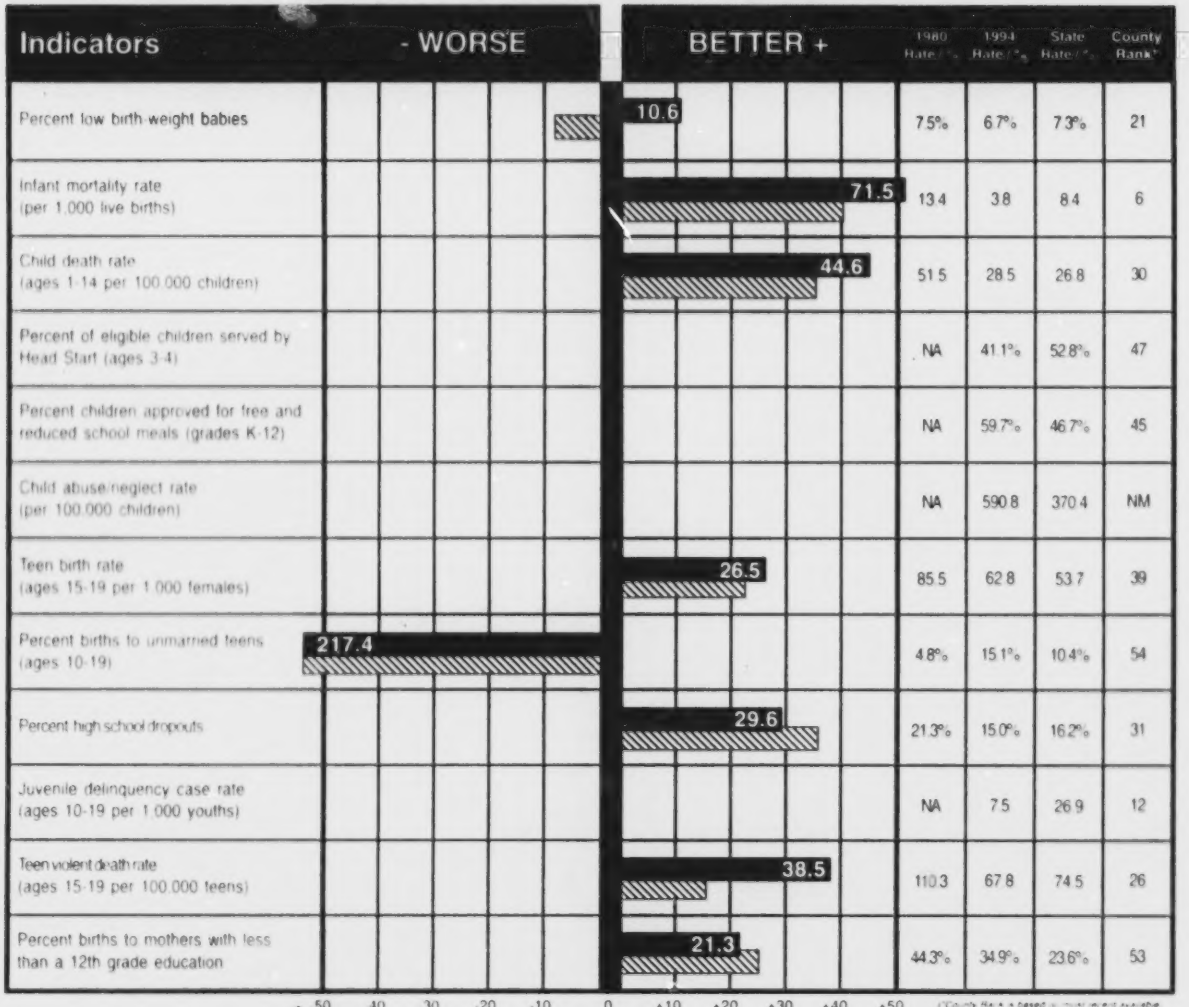


Wyoming County

Composite County Rank 42

Percent Change 1980-1994 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on most recent available data. 1 (best) - 55 (worst)

Background Facts

Background Facts	1980	1994	% Change
Total population	35,993	28,488	-20.9%
Education expenditures per pupil (1994 dollars)	$3,527	$5,844	65.7%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	12.9%	25.5%	97.8%
Percent births with early prenatal care	42.7%	81.5%	90.8%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	6,599	2,874	-56.4%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,554	2,630	3.0%
Unemployment rate	12.6%	12.4%	-1.6%
Total population under age 18	12,472	7,791	-37.5%
Percent population under age 18	34.7%	27.3%	-21.1%
Percent minority population	1.4%	1.4%	0.0%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.3%	1.3%	0.0%

Background Facts	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.1%	16.9%	66.8%
Percent children in poverty	24.1%	36.2%	50.4%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	$27,300	$20,730	-24.1%

Education Indicators

Indicator	*County Rate %*	*State Rate %*
Percent Students Attending School	88.6%	92.2%
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	19.2	16.7
Years Teacher/Administrator Experience	17.7 yrs	16.7 yrs
Percent High School Graduates	95.6%	94.6%

appendices

Definitions, Methodology And Sources

How an indicator or background factor was constructed is presented when staff at the Survey Research Center performed calculations to determine rates or percentages.

Indicator or background factor clarification is provided for those variables needing some explanation about the data; this does not apply to every variable.

Data sources are the same for both state and county unless otherwise specified. When the national data source was different from the state or county source, there are headings specifying different state and national sources.

CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT RATE
(per 100,000 children)
Indicator:
The number of substantiated maltreatment and risk of maltreatment cases "opened" during Fiscal Year 1993-94 for further servicing by Child Protective Services or referred agency per 100,000 children.

How is it Constructed?
At the state and county level, this indicator is a rate per 100,000 children based on 1993-1994 fiscal year data. The rate is calculated as 100,000 times the number of children under 18 having "open" substantiated abuse and neglect cases divided by the total number of children under 18.

Indicator Clarification:
No trend data has been calculated for this indicator due to the unavailability of 1980 data. Due to the implementation of a new data base system, 1993-94 data was used due to the unavailability of 1994-95 data. The number of children under 18 is based on 1990 census data. Differences in the reporting procedures of individual counties will affect the individual county rates, and, therefore, limits the comparison of rates across counties.

Data Sources: State(1993) Child Abuse and Neglect Data Base, Annual Report, Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 1993 and ending September 30, 1994.

CHILD DEATH RATE
(ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)
Indicator:
The number of deaths due to all causes, of children between the ages of 1-14 years, per 100,000 children.

How is it Constructed?
At a state and county level, this variable is a rate per 100,000 children based on a five-year average (1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994 for 1994). The rate is calculated as 100,000 times the number of child deaths due to all causes divided by the total number of children ages 1-14. The national rate is calculated in the same manner but is based only on 1994 data and not on a five-year average.

Indicator Clarification:
Due to the small number of child deaths on the county level, a small change in the actual number from the period 1980 to 1994 may result in a large percentage change for trend data. The number of children 1-14 years old is based on 1990 census data.

Data Sources: State(1980, 1994) WV Department of Health And Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. **National(1994)** Births and Deaths: United States, 1995. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 45 No. 3, Suppl.2, Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. October 4, 1996.

EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURES PER PUPIL
(1994 Dollars)
Background Fact:
Current per pupil expenditures based on average daily attendance for public school programs pre-kindergarten through 12th grade expressed in 1994 constant dollars.

How is it Constructed?
For comparison purposes, educational expenditure data for 1980-1981 were converted into 1994 dollars; a deflator of .516 was provided by the National Center for Education Statistics.

Data Sources: (1980) WV Department of Education: 1980-1981 Educational Statistics Summary Annual Report, Page 137. **(1994)** WV Department of Education: General Current Expense Fund. Expenditures on a Per Pupil Basis for the 1994-95 Year.

EMPLOYMENT TO POPULATION RATIO
Indicator:
The percent of the population 16 years of age and over who are employed.

How is it Constructed?
This ratio is constructed by dividing the population 16 years of age and over by the number who are emplyed.

Indicator Clarification:
A number of the population 16 and over may not be able to work; this indicator does not take that into account. In looking at employment, however, it is a good measure because it is not influenced by the fluctuations of those seeking employment and those who have quit seeking employment.

Data Sources: State(1995) Table I, State and Regional Unemployment, 1995 Annual Average. **National(1995)** United States Department of Labor, pages 96-147. Pro-

Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

vided by West Virginia Bureau of Employment Programs. Prepared by Labor and Economic Research.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE
(per 1,000 live births)
Indicator:
The number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births.

How is it Constructed?
At a state and county level, this variable is a rate per 1,000 live births based on a five-year average (1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994 for 1994). The rate is calculated as 1,000 times the number of infant deaths due to all causes divided by the number of total births. At the national level, the rate is calculated as 1,000 times the number of infant deaths in 1994 divided by the number of live births in 1994.

Indicator Clarification:
Due to the small number of deaths to infants under one year of age on the county level, a small change in the actual number from the period 1980 to 1994 may result in a large percentage change for trend data.

Data Sources: State(1980, 1994) WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. **National(1994)** Births and Deaths: United States, 1995. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 45 No. 3, Suppl.2, Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. October 4, 1996.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASE RATE
(ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)
Indicator:
The number of delinquency cases reported per 1,000 youths ages 10-21. These cases include children accused of status offenses, misdemeanors, and felonies.

How is it Constructed?
This variable is a rate per 1,000 youths based on the reporting period of July 1, 1994 through June 30, 1995. The rate is calculated as 1,000 times the number of reported delinquency cases for youths ages 10-21 divided by the total number of children ages 10-21.

Indicator Clarification:
No trends are calculated for this indicator due to the unavailability of data in 1980. The number of 10-21 year olds is based on 1990 census data. The same child can be the subject of more than one case over the reporting year. This case rate reflects the number of juvenile delinquency cases that were reported as being handled statewide; it is not an adjudication rate.

Data Sources: State(1994) West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, Juvenile Justice Committee. Juvenile Delinquency in West Virginia, Annual Report, July 1, 1994 to June 30, 1995. Juvenile Justice Data Base, Table IV, Page 14.

MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME
(1990 Dollars)
Background Fact:
Median Family Income is that family income at which fifty percent of all families have a higher income and fifty percent of all families have a lower income. Both 1980 and 1990 median family incomes are expressed in constant 1990 dollars.

How is it Constructed?
The median family income is based on census data. To arrive at the 1980 median family income in 1990 dollars, the 1980 median family income was divided by a deflator of .65.

Background Fact Clarification:
Data for this variable is not updatable for 1994 on the state or county levels and is therefore presented as 1990 data on these levels.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 3C, (Table 74)/Prepared by the Bureau of the Census. -Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. **(1990)** Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing 1990: Summary Tape File 3C, (Table 107A)/Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992.

PERCENT ALL FAMILIES WITH RELATED CHILDREN WHO ARE AFDC RECIPIENTS
Background Fact:
The percentage of families with related children who receive public assistance under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) or Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Unemployed Program (AFDC-U). Eligibility for this program is income based.

How is it Constructed?
To arrive at the percentage, the total of AFDC and AFDC-U cases is divided by the number of families with related children. Families with related children are comprised of married couples with related children, female heads with related children, and male heads with related children. At a state and county level, this background fact is a percentage based on a three year average (FY 78-79, 79-80, 80-81 for 1980 and FY 92-93, 93-94, 94-95 for 1994.)

Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

Data Limitations:
The number of families with related children is based on 1990 census data.

Data Sources: (1980) WV Department of Health and Human Resources. Fiscal Year 78-79, 79-80, 80-81; unpublished annual bulletin from Office of Audits, Research and Analysis. **(1994)** WV Department of Health and Human Resources. Fiscal Year 92-93, 93-94, 94-95 for 1994; unpublished annual bulletin from Office of Audits, Research and Analysis.

PERCENT BIRTHS TO MOTHERS WITH LESS THAN A 12TH GRADE EDUCATION

Indicator:
The percentage of all births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education.

How is it Constructed?
At a state and county level, this indicator is based on a three year average (1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1992, 1993, and 1994 for 1994). The numerator is number of births to mothers "with less than a 12th grade education" divided by the total number of births. The national figure is calculated in the same way as state and county figures, but is based on data from one year, 1994.

Indicator Clarification:
The base population is all births to mothers, regardless of age.

Data Sources: State(1980, 1994) WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. **National(1994)** Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1994. Monthly Vital Statistics Report; Vol. 44 No. 11, Supp. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1996.

PERCENT BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED TEENS (ages 10-19)

Indicator:
At a state and county level, this indicator is the percentage of live births which are to unmarried women ages 10-19. At a national level, the percentage represents live births which are to unmarried women under 20 years of age.

How is it Constructed?
At a state and county level, this indicator is based on a three year average (1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1992, 1993, and 1994 for 1994). The numerator is the number of births to unmarried teens ages 10-19; the denominator is the total number of births. National data is calculated by dividing the number of births to unmarried teens under age 20 by the total number of births. National data is based only on 1994 data.

Indicator Clarification:
Due to the small number of births to unmarried teens in some counties, a small change in the actual number from the period 1980 to 1994 may result in a large percentage change for trend data. The base population for this indicator is the births to all mothers, regardless of age.

Data Sources: State(1980, 1994) WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. **National(1994)** Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1994. Monthly Vital Statistics Report; Vol 44 No 11, Supp. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1996.

PERCENT BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE

Indicator:
The percentage of live births that are to women who began prenatal care in the first three months of their pregnancy.

How is it Constructed?
At a state and county level, this indicator is a percentage, based on a three year average (1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1992, 1993, and 1994 for 1994). The numerator for the variable is the number of mothers with first trimester care; the denominator is all births with known prenatal care. National data is based on the number of mothers receiving Ist trimester prenatal care in 1994 divided by the total births with known prenatal care during 1994.

Background Fact Clarification:
Live births to women who did not report the month in which prenatal care was started were excluded from the computation. This indicator does not tell us anything about the quality, frequency, or consistency of care that the mother received during this time. Lack of early prenatal care does not in and of itself cause poor birth outcomes.

Data Sources: State(1980, 1994) WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. **National(1994)** Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1994. Monthly Vital Statistics Report; Vol 44 No 11, Supp. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1996.

Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

PERCENT CHILDREN APPROVED FOR FREE OR REDUCED SCHOOL MEALS
(grades K-12)
Indicator:
The percent of all enrolled children in grades K-12 who applied and were approved for free or reduced school meals.

How is it Constructed?
At a county and state level, this variable is a percentage based on 1995-1996 fiscal year data. The numerator is the number of submitted and approved applications for free or reduced-price school meals in grades K-12; the denominator is the total student enrollment in grades K-12.

Indicator Clarification:
No trend data has been calculated for this indicator. Data for this variable is not updatable for 1995 at the national level and is therefore presented as 1994 data at this level. The number of children who are eligible for free and reduced-school meals is thought to be undercounted since not all eligible persons return the application form. It is estimated that approximately 17% of income eligible nationally do not apply for free or reduced-school meals. While this indicator is being used in lieu of the "Percent Children in Poverty," the actual percentage receiving free or reduced school meals will be higher since eligibility for free school meals is at 130% of poverty and reduced is at 185% of poverty.

Data Sources: State(1995) West Virginia Department of Education, Office of Child Nutrition, Charleston, WV. West Virginia Child Nutrition Programs, Percentage of Needy Students, October, Fiscal Year 1995-1996. **National(1994)** United States Department of Agriculture, Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service. Monthly Program Report, October, Fiscal Year 1994-1995.

PERCENT CHILDREN IN POVERTY
Background Fact:
The percentage of children under 18 years of age who live in poverty as defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The poverty threshold for a family of four persons was $13,360 in 1990.

How is it Constructed?
To arrive at the percent children in poverty, the total number of children below the poverty level are divided by the total number of children under age 18.

Background Fact Clarification:
Data for this variable is not updatable at the state or county levels for 1994 and is therefore presented as 1990 data.

Data Sources: State(1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Characteristics of the Population, Chapter D, Detailed Population Characteristics, United States Summary (PC80-1-D1-A), Table 304, Washington: Bureau of the Census (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1984. **(1990)** Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1990: Summary Tape File 3C, (Table P117)/Prepared by the Bureau of the Census. -Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. **National(1980)** Bureau of the Census. 1980 Census of Population. Characteristics of the Population. Chapter B, General Population Characteristics, PC80-1-B1, Bureau of the Census, 1983. **(1990)** Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing 1990: Summary Tape File 3C (Table P126)/Prepared by the Bureau of the Census. -Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. (National data for this variable is not presented in tabular form; it is referred to in the text.)

PERCENT CHILDREN IN SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES
Background Fact:
The percentage of "own" children under age 18 who live in families headed by a person without a spouse present in the home. "Own" children include the family head's children by birth, marriage, or adoption.

How is it Constructed?
To arrive at the percent children in single-parent families, the total number of children in single-parent families were divided by the total number of children under age 18. Single parents are comprised of female-headed families and male headed families with no spouse present. Numbers for this formula were based on census data.

Background Fact Clarification:
Data for this variable is not updatable at the state or county level and is therefore presented as 1990 data at these levels.

Data Sources: State(1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 2 (WV), (Tables B12 and B13)/Prepared by the Bureau of the Census. -
Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. **(1990)** Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1990: Summary Tape File 1C, (Table P21)/Prepared by the Bureau of the Census. -Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. **National(1980)** Bureau of the Census. 1980 Census of Population. Characteristics of the Population. Chapter B, General Population Characteristics. PC80-1-B1. Bureau of the Census, 1983. **(1990)** *1992 Kids Count Data Book-State Profiles of Child Well-Being*. Center for the Study of Social Policy, Suite 503, 1250 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005. (While national data for this variable is not presented in tabular form, it is referred to in the text.)

Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS
Indicator:
The percentage of students in grades 7-12 who leave a public school before graduation without transferring to another school.

How is it Constructed?
At a state and county level, this indicator is based on a three year average of school years 1978-1979, 1979-1980, and 1980-1981 for 1980 and 1992-1993, 1993-1994, and 1994-1995 for 1994. This percent is based on the number of 7th through 12th grade dropouts divided by the number of 7th through 12th grade dropouts plus the number of 12th grade graduates.

Data Sources: State(1980, 1994) WV Department of Education. Unpublished special tabulations by the WV Department of Education. Charleston, West Virginia.

PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES
Indicator:
This variable is a percentage of enrolled 12th grade students who graduate from high school.

How is it Constructed?
At a state and county level, this indicator is a percentage based upon data from 1992-1993, 1993-1994, and 1994-1995 school years for 1995. The numerator for this variable is the total number of students enrolled in the 12th grade, the denominator is the total number of 12th grade graduates.

Indicator Clarification:
Differences in the reporting procedures of individual counties and migration of students will affect the individual county percents and, therefore, limits the comparison across counties.

Data Sources: (1995) WV Department of Education: 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995 West Virginia Report Cards State, County, and School Data.

PERCENT LOW BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES
Indicator:
The percentage of live births recorded as low birth-weight. Babies of low birth-weight are those who weigh under 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) at birth.

How is it Constructed?
At a state and county level, this indicator is a percentage based on a three-year average (1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1992, 1993, and 1994 for 1994). The numerator for this variable is the number of low birth-weight babies; the denominator is the total births for all ages. National data is the number of low birth-weight babies in 1994 divided by the total births for all ages in 1994.

Indicator Clarification:
While the low birth-weight indicator encompasses two levels of birth weight, those of moderately low weight and very low weight, it is those surviving infants of very low birth weight who research has shown to have notably higher odds of impaired development; this fact can be masked when looking at the two levels of low birth weight in combination.

Data Sources: State(1980, 1994) WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. **National(1994)** Births and Deaths: United States, 1995. Monthly Vital Statistics Report; Vol 45 No 3, Supp. 2, Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. October 4, 1996.

PERCENT MINORITY POPULATION
Background Fact:
The percentage of the total population that is identified as minority.

How is it Constructed?
To arrive at percent minority population, the minority population has been divided by the total population. Numbers for this formula were based on 1980 census data and 1994 estimated census data.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 1C, (Table 7)/Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. **(1994)** Bureau of the Census. 1990-94 County Estimates by Age, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1994: Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington.

PERCENT MINORITY POPULATION UNDER AGE 18
Background Fact:
The percentage of the population under age 18 identified as minority.

How is it Constructed?
To arrive at the percent minority population under age 18, the total minority population under 18 was divided by the total population under 18. Numbers for this formula were based on 1980 census data and 1994 estimated census data.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 1C (Table 12)/Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. **(1994)** Bureau of the Census. 1990-94 County Estimates by Age, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1994: Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington.

Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

PERCENT OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN SERVED BY HEAD START
(ages 3-4)
Indicator:
The percentage of all eligible 3-4 year olds who are participating in Head Start.

How is it Constructed?
At the state and county, this variable is a percentage based on 1996 data. The numerator for this indicator is the number of 3-4 year olds served by Head Start; the denominator is the estimated number of 3-4 year olds in poverty.

Indicator Clarification:
This indicator is based on data from 1996; no trend data has been calculated for this indicator. The reader will notice that in some counties, the percentage of 3-4 year olds served by Head Start exceeds the percentage of children in poverty; this is due to the fact that guidelines for the program allow up to 10% of those children enrolled in Head Start to exceed the income level. While the data indicates that only a certain percentage of eligible children are served by Head Start, one should not assume that full funding of the program for all eligible children would result in 100% participation since some eligible children may choose not to participate or are already participating in some other program. While this data is presented as the percentage of 3-4 year olds in poverty served by Head Start, this is not meant to imply that 3-4 year olds are the only target group for Head Start.

Data Sources: State(1996) Department of Health and Human Services, Region III. Administration for Children and Families, Office for Community Programs, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. **National(1996)** Raw numbers including the number of children in poverty, who are three to four years old, were supplied by the Head Start Bureau, Administration of Children, Youth, and Families, Health and Human Services. The percentage of eligible 3-4 year olds served by Head Start was calculated by Survey Research Center staff.

PERCENT POPULATION UNDER AGE 18
Background Fact:
The percentage of the total population under age 18.

How is it Constructed?
To arrive at the percent population under 18, the population under 18 has been divided by the total population. Numbers for this formula were based on 1980 census data for 1980 and 1994 estimated census data for 1994.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 1C, (Table 10)/Prepared by the Bureau of the Census. -Washington: The Bureau (WVU Office of Health Services Research), 1992. **(1994)** Bureau of the Census. 1990-94 County Estimates by Age, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1994: Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS ATTENDING SCHOOL
Indicator:
The percentage of school days attended by all students, in schools with a terminal grade.

How is it Constructed?
At a state and county level, this indicator is a percentage based on the school years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995 for 1995. The numerator is school's enrollment multiplied by the attendance rate, then summed by county; the denominator is the sum of school enrollment by county for the three years.

Data Sources: (1995) WV Department of Education: 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995 West Virginia Report Cards State, County, and School Data.

PUPIL/TEACHER RATIO
Indicator:
Pupil to teacher ratio for schools with a terminal grade.

How is it Constructed?
At the state and county level, this indicator is a ratio based on the school years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995 for the reporting year 1995. The numerator is constructed by multiplying each school's enrollment by the school's pupil/teacher ratio for each of the three years. These are then summed by county. The denominator is the sum of school enrollment by county for the three years.

Data Sources: (1995) WV Department of Education: 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995 West Virginia Report Cards State, County, and School Data.

TEEN BIRTH RATE
ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)
Indicator:
The number of live births to teens ages 15-19 per 1,000 females ages 15-19 years.

How is it Constructed?
At a state and county level, this indicator is a rate per 1,000 females ages 15-19 based on an average of 1978, 1979, and 1980 data for 1980 and 1992, 1993, and 1994 for 1994. The rate is calculated as 1,000 times the number of teen births to females ages 15-19 divided by the total number of females ages 15-19. National data is calculated in the same manner except that it is based on 1994 data and not on a three-year average.

Indicator Clarification: The base population for this indicator is the total number of females, ages 15-19.

Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

Data Sources: State(1980, 1994) WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV; 1980 is an average of 1978, 1979, and 1980 and 1994 data is an average of 1992, 1993, and 1994. **National (1994)** Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1994. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol 44 No 11, Supp. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics, 1996.

TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE
(ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)
[Formally called Teen Injury Death Rate]
Indicator:
The number of deaths from homicides, suicides and unintentional injuries to teens ages 15-19 years per 100,000 teens.

How is it Constructed?
At a state and county level, this indicator is a five-year average (1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994 for 1994). The teen injury death rate is a composite of the number of deaths for injury mortality from homicide, suicide, and unintentional injuries. The rate is calculated as 100,000 times the number of teen injury deaths divided by the total number of youths ages 15-19. The national rate is calculated in the same manner but it is based only on 1992 data and not on a five year average.

Indicator Clarification:
Like the infant mortality and child death rates, this rate does not tell us anything about the quality of life for those teens surviving life-threatening injuries. Due to the small number of teen deaths on the county level, a small change in the actual number from the period 1980 to 1994 may result in a large percentage change for trend data. 1994 national data is not available at this time, 1992 national data has been used. The number of youths between 15-19 years old is based on 1990 census data.

Data Sources: State(1980, 1994) WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. **National(1992)** Advance Report of Final Mortality Statistics, 1992. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol 43 No 6, Suppl. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics, 1994.

TOTAL JOBS IN HIGH-PAYING INDUSTRIES
Background Fact:
The percentage change in the number of jobs in high-paying industries which a county has gained or lost from 1980 to 1994. Jobs in the mining, manufacturing, construction, transportation and financial sectors are classified as "high" paying professions.

Data Sources: (1980) U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, April, 1991. **(1994)** U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, May, 1995.

TOTAL JOBS IN LOW-PAYING INDUSTRIES
Background Fact:
The percentage change in the number of jobs in low-paying industries which a county has gained or lost from 1980 to 1994. Jobs in agricultural services, wholesale and retail trade and services sectors are considered as "low" paying professions.

Data Sources: (1980) U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, April, 1991. **(1994)** U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, May, 1995.

TOTAL POPULATION
Background Fact:
The total population as reported by the Bureau of the Census.

Data Sources: State(1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 1C, (Table 1)/Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. **(1994)** Bureau of the Census. Population Distribution and Population Estimates Branches. Time Series of State and County Population Estimates and Components of Population Change: 1990-95. Washington. **National(1994)** Bureau of the Census. Population Division: United States Population Estimates by Age, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1990 to 1995 (PPL-41). Washington.

TOTAL POPULATION UNDER AGE 18
Background Fact:
The total population under age 18 as reported by the Bureau of the Census.

Background Fact Clarification:
Data for this variable for 1994 is based upon population estimates calculated by the Bureau of the Census.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 1C, (Table 10)/Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. **(1994)** Bureau of the Census. 1990-94 County Estimates by Age, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1994: Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington.

Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Background Fact:
The number of people who are actively looking for work but are unemployed as a percentage of the civilian labor force.

Backgroung Fact Clarification:
Data, beginning in 1994, are not directly comparable with data for 1993 and earlier years because of the introduction of a major redesign of the Current Population Survey (household survey) questionnaire.

How is it Constructed?
This variable is a percentage based on the West Virginia Labor Force Statistics annual average, 1994. To calculate the unemployment rate the total number of unemployed persons is divided by the number of persons in the civilian labor force.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of Employment Programs, Prepared by Labor and Economic Research, (BLS series): unpublished special tabulations. **(1994)** West Virginia Bureau of Employment Programs. Bureau of Business Research, West Virginia University.

YEARS OF TEACHER/ADMINISTRATOR EXPERIENCE

Indicator:
Average number of years of experience for teachers in schools with a terminal grade.

How is it Constructed?
At a state and county level, this indicator is a percentage based on school years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, and 1994-1995 for 1995. The numerator is constructed by multiplying each school's teacher/administrators average years of experience with the number of teachers for that school. These are then summed by county. The denominator is the total number of teachers from all three school years.

Data Sources: (1995) WV Department of Education: 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995 West Virginia Report Cards State, County, and School Data.

Notes On Statistics And Methodology

The *1996 WV KIDS COUNT Data Book* consists of a state profile, a minority profile, an education profile, and 55 county profiles, all of which document the status of children in West Virginia. Most of the indicators and background facts are expressed as percentages or rates. Indicators and Background Facts presented as actual numbers include: Total Population, Total Population Under Age 18, Education Expenditures per Pupil (1994 dollars), Total Jobs in High-Paying Industries, Total Jobs in Low-Paying Industries, and Median Family Income (1990 dollars). Actual numbers behind the percentages and rates appear in the Appendix.

Trend data is based on the change between 1980 and 1994. In some cases, including Percent Low Birth-Weight Babies, Teen Birth Rate, Percent Births to Unmarried Teens, and Percent Births to Mothers with Less Than a 12th Grade Education, the 1980 value is the average of 1978, 1979 and 1980, and the 1994 value is the average of 1992, 1993, and 1994. For indicators such as Child Death Rate, Infant Mortality Rate, and Teen Violent Death Rate, the 1980 value is the average of 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1980, and the 1994 value is the average of 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994. The 1980 Percent High School Dropouts is the average of three school years: 1978-79, 1979-80, and 1980-81; the 1994 Percent High School Dropouts is the average of the 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 school years. Trend data is not available on four of the indicators. In this year's *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, Child Abuse/Neglect Rate data and Juvenile Delinquency Case Rate data are based on FY 1994, Head Start data are from 1996, and Free and Reduced School Meals data are based on the 1995-96 school year. Also, trend data is unavailable on all of the new educational support items. Each of the new education profile indicators are based on data from 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995 school years for 1995.

A composite county rank appears in the upper right corner of each county profile. It was derived by converting the county rates and percentages (on each indicator) into a *z* score. This was done in order to give each indicator equal weight. Then each county's *z* scores were added together to form a county composite *z* score. Finally, the composite *z* scores were ranked 1 (best) through 55 (worst).

The indicators' *z* scores summed to achieve the composite rank include Percent Low Birth-Weight Babies, Infant Mortality Rate, Child Death Rate, Percent Children Approved for Free and Reduced School Meals, Teen Birth Rate, Percent Births to Unmarried Teens, Percent High School Dropouts, Juvenile Delinquency Case Rate, Teen Violent Death Rate, and Births to Mothers with Less Than a 12th Grade Education. This year's *WV KIDS COUNT Data Book* omits both Percent of Eligible Children Served by Head Start and Child Abuse/Neglect Rate in the composite score. Therefore, comparing the county composite ranks from the 1993, 1994 or 1995 books with those from the 1991 and 1992 books cannot be done.

Each of the 12 indicators is also ranked in sequential order from best (1) to worst (55). The ranking was obtained by simply ranking the rate or percentage from best to worst. These individual indicator rankings appear on each of the county pages under the county rank column. Each individual indicator ranking, except for Percent of Eligible Children Served by Head Start (1996 data) and Percent Children Approved for Free and Reduced School Meals (1996 data), is based on 1994 data. On all of the indicators, except for Head Start, the lowest rate or percent is given the most positive ranking (rank = 1). With the Head Start indicator, as well as four of the new educational support items such as the Percent of High School Graduates, Percentage of Student Attendance, Teacher/Administrator Experience, and Employment to Population Ratio, higher rates are considered the most optimal and are ranked as the best.

Whenever two or more counties were tied for the individual indicator rank, they were all assigned the same rank, e.g. if four counties tied at ranking position 1, all four were assigned a rank of 1, then the next county was ranked 5.

This year a county rank for Child Abuse/Neglect is not provided because the differences in the reporting procedure of individual counties limit the usefulness of the county comparisons.

Caution should be used when interpreting the rates for Infant Mortality, Child Death, and Teen Violent Death because the incidence is small. The small numbers cause inflated percent change over time. For example, if there are 2 deaths one year and 1 death the next year, this is a 50 percent improvement. However, if there are 21 deaths in one year and 20 deaths the next year, this is a 5 percent improvement. With small numbers, one death has a much greater effect on the percent change.

The percentages in this book are rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent. Percent changes for the indicators are based on unrounded figures. The percent change given in this book may not equal the percentage change from the actual numbers given in this book.

"NC" indicates there was no change between the 1980 and 1994 rate or percent. "NA" indicates that data was not available. "NM" is used when the 1980 data is zero and 1994 data is any value above zero because a percent change from zero cannot be calculated. When the 1980 data is any value above zero and the 1994 data is zero, the percent change shown is always 100 percent.

Mapping - The maps for the education profile items are based on standard deviation breakdowns which allow for meaningful comparisons across counties. The dark colored counties are those counties with rates or percents that are one or more standard deviations below the state average or those counties which are doing most poorly on the particular indicator. The light colored counties are counties with rates or percents that are between the state average and one standard deviation below the state average or those counties which are not doing well on the particular indicator. The white counties represent counties with rates or percents that are at or above the state average. These counties have the highest rates or percents in the state and are doing well in terms of the particular education profile indicator.

Notes on Numbers and Data Sources in the Appendix:

How an indicator or background factor was constructed is only presented when staff at the Survey Research Center performed calculations to determine rates or percentages.

Indicator or background factor clarification is provided for those variables needing some explanation about the data; this does not apply to every variable.

Data sources are the same for both state and county unless otherwise specified. When the national data source was different from the state or county source, there are headings specifying different state and national sources; again county sources are the same as state sources, unless otherwise specified.

Numbers

COUNTY	Low Birth Weight Babies		Infant Deaths Cumulative #s		Child Deaths Cumulative #s		Kids in Head Start	Kids Approved For Free/Reduced Price Meals	Child Abuse/ Neglect Cases	Births to Teens		Births to Unmarried Teens		High School Dropouts		Juvenile Del Cases	Teen Violent Deaths Cumulative #s	
	1980	1994	1976-80	1990-94	1976-80	1990-94	1996	1996	1994	1980	1994	1980	1994	1980	1994	1994	1976-80	1990-94
West Virginia	1,985	1,590	2,110	929	891	460	7,057	145,454	1,643	5,921	3,722	1,751	2,271	8,094	3,978	8,824	761	529
BARBOUR	14	14	21	12	6	2	108	1,956	3	49	36	15	24	99	30	42	6	4
BERKELEY	41	66	49	32	32	18	122	4,327	44	157	140	50	103	230	192	450	20	18
BOONE	29	28	35	7	17	8	139	2,469	14	106	75	27	47	180	90	54	8	7
BRAXTON	14	9	13	10	12	3	110	1,575	37	45	24	14	15	70	22	36	5	4
BROOKE	26	17	27	7	9	0	49	1,470	5	57	37	18	27	73	57	274	8	9
CABELL	84	95	113	63	48	22	344	6,156	41	314	204	101	128	317	202	984	33	19
CALHOUN	15	6	13	3	7	3	49	1,124	16	39	17	10	8	65	14	14	4	0
CLAY	14	11	21	2	3	3	120	1,567	17	58	36	18	17	73	18	11	11	1
DODDRIDGE	9	6	6	3	6	2	35	750	9	22	16	6	8	41	19	5	4	0
FAYETTE	60	45	68	27	28	15	300	4,830	61	210	123	73	74	250	103	44	22	15
GILMER	12	6	8	1	4	3	36	867	8	29	11	6	5	56	11	3	0	3
GRANT	7	9	7	4	6	2	62	1,062	15	31	21	6	11	35	11	16	7	5
GREENBRIER	35	25	30	11	13	5	147	3,097	69	111	66	32	38	240	85	251	16	14
HAMPSHIRE	13	18	8	9	3	5	68	1,822	23	39	37	8	19	59	51	23	14	7
HANCOCK	29	26	35	12	11	6	95	1,448	5	86	41	27	33	107	51	83	11	3
HARDY	7	5	8	6	2	2	69	1,004	9	26	21	9	12	44	18	25	1	4
HARRISON	78	67	74	51	24	13	324	5,392	110	305	157	57	103	249	122	158	32	17
JACKSON	20	25	17	11	10	8	92	2,224	18	73	47	11	22	91	50	111	12	7
JEFFERSON	31	28	31	18	21	13	70	2,337	10	92	64	36	47	167	123	56	12	11
KANAWHA	227	194	317	94	67	56	388	11,994	169	614	437	231	301	797	543	1,110	94	73
LEWIS	22	15	16	10	8	5	38	1,673	21	56	41	10	26	73	53	58	5	3
LINCOLN	22	25	16	17	11	6	159	2,941	16	114	56	19	25	151	48	260	14	18
LOGAN	66	42	79	17	32	18	223	4,299	32	215	121	63	81	306	172	151	23	12
McDOWELL	87	38	94	25	30	15	449	5,001	27	276	114	95	59	350	96	97	27	19
MARION	65	48	70	27	26	17	142	3,595	80	170	90	53	51	256	54	109	21	10
MARSHALL	35	26	33	10	11	3	84	2,301	8	102	58	31	35	142	63	196	19	1
MASON	28	13	33	12	12	5	70	2,038	44	92	50	24	41	73	63	14	25	9
MERCER	103	60	96	31	52	24	257	5,344	40	238	156	68	88	351	110	517	31	26
MINERAL	27	17	22	14	11	5	113	2,506	42	71	51	18	24	76	38	96	12	5
MINGO	53	38	61	18	29	12	415	3,697	38	190	110	48	51	78	125	123	19	13
MONONGALIA	46	67	52	36	22	13	162	3,785	74	124	87	37	54	239	119	238	13	8
MONROE	12	10	13	6	3	2	63	1,130	23	30	20	6	10	45	33	22	5	9
MORGAN	8	4	5	4	4	0	58	961	8	29	27	7	18	37	43	18	5	1
NICHOLAS	22	27	39	9	13	4	151	2,776	51	98	62	26	33	117	42	132	9	4
OHIO	54	54	79	37	32	13	132	2,164	91	196	88	46	75	130	40	142	21	7
PENDLETON	4	5	16	4	2	0	33	697	12	21	10	3	6	17	9	12	8	3
PLEASANTS	6	4	11	6	6	1	27	625	9	25	15	9	9	34	19	3	5	2
POCAHONTAS	11	7	16	3	7	4	33	988	22	37	16	12	7	33	20	37	6	3
PRESTON	41	34	33	27	19	8	111	3,300	4	98	55	20	31	134	58	34	19	11
PUTNAM	36	27	28	10	13	8	118	2,704	18	84	61	18	35	138	93	78	14	10
RALEIGH	94	80	102	50	42	23	105	6,673	70	291	166	88	97	431	203	868	25	35
RANDOLPH	21	20	22	11	11	8	87	2,964	34	92	56	26	35	145	36	127	7	7
RITCHIE	13	7	10	2	4	0	36	1,015	13	38	19	9	13	43	33	3	10	8
ROANE	23	10	23	10	8	5	56	2,047	1	55	35	13	21	69	29	34	4	9
SUMMERS	20	11	28	9	10	3	66	1,176	23	56	25	21	11	83	41	18	8	5
TAYLOR	19	6	20	8	5	2	83	1,812	4	50	25	12	14	75	21	56	9	2
TUCKER	9	9	11	10	7	1	12	811	9	22	11	4	4	24	9	11	1	6
TYLER	9	7	13	0	5	0	56	831	10	35	14	9	9	32	16	10	2	2
UPSHUR	27	17	31	19	8	8	168	2,241	12	70	50	15	26	90	57	177	8	4
WAYNE	41	41	23	18	24	4	142	3,732	39	153	92	30	38	276	87	133	15	14
WEBSTER	13	9	14	12	7	4	64	1,415	24	45	27	14	14	115	26	12	6	2
WETZEL	16	14	26	14	9	5	68	1,645	22	61	41	15	24	94	46	89	9	6
WIRT	5	4	2	7	1	2	22	640	0	14	7	4	4	21	9	4	1	1
WOOD	108	76	127	47	37	14	235	5,560	0	282	166	93	112	388	154	549	17	25
WYOMING	31	29	43	16	24	4	132	3,256	44	138	82	29	46	117	83	46	18	9

Numbers, continued

County	Births to Moms with < 12 Years Education		AFDC and AFDC-U Cases		Births With Early Prenatal Care		Total Minority Population		Number of Minority Children		Kids in Single Parent Families		Kids in Poverty	
	1980	1991	1980	1991	1980	1991								
West Virginia	**9,248**	**5,145**	**25,689**	**42,597**	**18,913**	**16,532**	**74,893**	**76,686**	**23,313**	**21,276**	**66,949**	**77,130**	**103,964**	**115,073**
BARBOUR	89	43	304	420	160	148	223	432	75	119	533	690	1,198	1,438
BERKELEY	245	238	495	952	477	686	2,011	3,372	687	993	1,790	2,738	2,599	2,454
BOONE	213	106	450	932	302	212	383	323	122	103	1,071	1,143	1,811	2,393
BRAXTON	66	30	197	370	124	108	99	125	29	45	507	523	1,108	991
BROOKE	80	47	349	435	292	217	325	378	74	92	970	866	1,097	1,039
CABELL	432	301	1,429	2,299	1,021	1,041	5,208	5,173	1,540	1,396	4,178	4,441	4,554	5,234
CALHOUN	62	26	138	241	108	56	63	72	0	18	318	411	821	776
CLAY	94	43	229	420	101	99	19	30	0	7	393	526	1,468	1,466
DODDRIDGE	32	21	93	182	73	61	27	51	0	18	236	249	624	482
FAYETTE	340	182	1,126	1,538	485	436	4,587	3,522	1,425	924	2,223	2,341	3,823	4,102
GILMER	42	18	103	188	96	56	78	98	8	13	238	280	466	731
GRANT	41	33	111	95	102	113	151	185	42	50	254	396	792	432
GREENBRIER	175	94	289	542	258	309	1,673	1,576	507	396	1,235	1,453	1,721	1,921
HAMPSHIRE	60	52	170	293	146	177	153	264	49	84	456	614	869	874
HANCOCK	116	46	414	625	352	281	1,235	1,259	367	318	1,331	1,387	1,035	1,444
HARDY	41	28	121	111	94	114	214	303	56	72	289	376	624	400
HARRISON	297	201	1,014	1,650	922	745	1,326	2,206	420	561	2,622	3,000	3,808	4,125
JACKSON	104	58	167	517	272	246	83	177	33	67	730	1,021	1,066	1,661
JEFFERSON	178	102	332	570	346	395	2,913	3,583	1,081	1,040	1,215	1,411	1,561	1,246
KANAWHA	930	563	2,459	4,729	2,389	1,732	15,461	16,512	4,803	4,758	8,362	10,142	8,288	10,525
LEWIS	85	46	235	445	201	167	141	176	33	44	657	754	1,025	1,290
LINCOLN	180	96	530	955	213	234	43	82	0	24	810	882	2,294	2,652
LOGAN	372	167	810	1,602	420	331	2,389	1,892	784	539	1,949	2,089	3,641	4,388
McDOWELL	552	208	1,663	1,899	417	252	7,498	4,733	2,439	1,406	2,377	1,942	5,380	5,095
MARION	214	116	866	1,382	685	515	2,603	2,542	839	663	2,175	2,204	2,894	3,400
MARSHALL	143	75	483	723	480	345	410	568	103	132	1,329	1,486	1,409	1,912
MASON	155	69	257	598	260	215	246	295	92	87	833	1,066	1,254	1,772
MERCER	375	193	1,230	1,655	687	530	5,459	4,850	1,685	1,400	2,607	2,808	4,146	4,518
MINERAL	79	53	344	425	288	255	900	920	335	261	871	983	1,340	1,268
MINGO	360	175	1,060	1,646	299	330	1,174	1,088	385	337	1,643	1,907	3,989	3,839
MONONGALIA	193	104	392	928	734	693	2,754	4,421	622	838	1,860	2,370	1,843	2,838
MONROE	59	36	81	161	89	109	262	240	67	57	332	412	949	777
MORGAN	36	35	69	169	86	99	128	181	37	38	256	352	633	283
NICHOLAS	167	76	378	805	315	243	75	156	0	64	950	1,173	1,912	2,386
OHIO	151	109	742	957	606	430	2,513	2,246	861	704	2,316	2,366	2,117	2,278
PENDLETON	28	16	100	67	71	76	197	213	69	63	203	221	566	319
PLEASANTS	35	15	60	120	71	64	29	36	8	9	278	324	393	487
POCAHONTAS	48	18	108	100	76	76	105	116	9	25	258	316	365	552
PRESTON	154	69	419	635	343	287	138	206	46	71	869	1,027	2,123	1,784
PUTNAM	115	74	284	541	430	451	169	528	68	180	980	1,494	1,314	1,618
RALEIGH	437	257	1,070	2,179	610	678	7,413	6,916	2,424	2,085	2,769	3,572	4,153	5,742
RANDOLPH	143	88	316	475	284	278	349	480	60	106	872	1,116	1,678	1,974
RITCHIE	51	29	95	207	109	80	20	27	0	9	382	421	718	868
ROANE	97	48	176	396	161	111	146	94	0	23	474	672	922	1,520
SUMMERS	95	41	335	362	127	95	1,241	1,005	182	128	612	579	1,236	1,048
TAYLOR	76	34	238	364	175	141	173	205	44	54	586	629	943	1,118
TUCKER	29	16	64	85	79	66	27	37	0	15	250	211	512	410
TYLER	45	21	107	190	113	84	23	57	0	14	307	351	608	515
UPSHUR	114	80	194	590	253	213	182	327	36	77	648	947	1,305	1,723
WAYNE	220	139	562	951	452	442	119	256	29	72	1,477	1,656	3,358	3,035
WEBSTER	87	44	339	498	149	109	17	54	2	20	526	576	1,439	1,356
WETZEL	94	48	267	450	235	169	74	107	0	26	769	789	923	1,291
WIRT	19	11	60	124	44	48	17	12	0	3	119	198	295	339
WOOD	337	201	1,005	1,603	988	876	1,138	1,567	387	523	3,392	3,829	3,963	3,940
WYOMING	267	106	758	1,200	245	211	489	392	158	105	1,262	1,400	2,991	3,004

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Numbers, continued

COUNTY			Graduation Rate				
West Virginia	20,540	21,715	94.6%	92.2%	16.7	16.7	50.0%
BARBOUR	179	205	87.5%	89.7%	16.8	12.8	44.1%
BERKELEY	584	634	92.1%	91.0%	17.6	14.1	60.6%
BOONE	384	401	95.8%	91.3%	17.2	13.2	37.6%
BRAXTON	164	174	94.6%	90.9%	14.4	18.8	44.0%
BROOKE	340	336	101.3%	91.7%	16.0	20.0	50.0%
CABELL	900	991	90.9%	92.1%	17.2	17.0	52.4%
CALHOUN	105	107	97.8%	89.9%	16.7	14.6	36.0%
CLAY	136	151	90.3%	94.2%	15.5	13.7	39.5%
DODDRIDGE	76	84	90.1%	92.4%	16.5	15.2	49.0%
FAYETTE	651	672	96.8%	92.3%	18.0	16.2	43.6%
GILMER	80	86	93.4%	93.4%	16.2	15.0	42.3%
GRANT	125	130	96.2%	93.4%	15.5	15.3	52.1%
GREENBRIER	447	430	104.0%	93.5%	15.3	17.4	49.4%
HAMPSHIRE	175	188	92.9%	92.0%	14.1	15.3	53.4%
HANCOCK	388	434	89.4%	90.9%	17.1	18.1	51.1%
HARDY	124	120	103.0%	95.0%	14.2	15.5	72.8%
HARRISON	776	794	97.7%	93.1%	15.4	17.3	54.0%
JACKSON	340	374	90.8%	91.5%	16.1	17.2	57.5%
JEFFERSON	327	353	92.6%	91.5%	15.2	14.5	62.8%
KANAWHA	2,161	2,273	95.1%	92.6%	17.6	18.4	60.0%
LEWIS	219	230	95.1%	92.9%	17.7	16.3	46.8%
LINCOLN	304	309	98.3%	90.7%	15.7	14.2	36.2%
LOGAN	653	679	96.1%	91.4%	18.4	15.9	39.8%
McDOWELL	440	446	98.7%	87.6%	16.7	15.5	29.3%
MARION	681	712	95.6%	95.3%	17.4	18.3	48.2%
MARSHALL	457	472	96.9%	93.6%	14.5	19.4	53.1%
MASON	300	317	94.8%	92.1%	14.4	15.9	44.2%
MERCER	681	732	93.0%	91.6%	17.4	17.6	52.0%
MINERAL	319	355	89.9%	92.2%	17.6	17.4	49.4%
MINGO	440	460	95.6%	90.6%	13.8	15.4	35.5%
MONONGALIA	668	777	86.0%	92.6%	18.8	16.1	58.9%
MONROE	135	146	92.3%	91.2%	18.1	16.2	47.4%
MORGAN	123	139	88.9%	92.3%	16.1	15.1	54.3%
NICHOLAS	385	396	97.1%	92.2%	17.8	16.5	44.5%
OHIO	386	421	91.8%	92.0%	16.2	18.2	58.0%
PENDLETON	91	91	99.6%	93.3%	16.8	16.2	59.7%
PLEASANTS	106	110	97.0%	91.6%	15.8	20.7	49.6%
POCAHONTAS	101	104	96.5%	93.5%	15.0	17.0	51.4%
PRESTON	355	367	96.6%	94.5%	17.5	17.5	52.7%
PUTNAM	539	560	95.4%	93.5%	17.6	15.1	60.6%
RALEIGH	926	953	97.2%	90.7%	18.8	16.8	49.7%
RANDOLPH	265	315	83.9%	93.7%	16.8	16.2	54.8%
RITCHIE	119	125	95.2%	91.3%	16.1	16.8	47.7%
ROANE	192	196	98.1%	91.8%	16.3	16.6	46.0%
SUMMERS	133	142	93.9%	92.2%	17.2	19.2	38.9%
TAYLOR	155	183	84.9%	94.3%	18.6	16.3	51.2%
TUCKER	110	114	96.2%	93.2%	19.0	16.3	56.0%
TYLER	127	133	95.7%	93.3%	13.6	14.6	48.3%
UPSHUR	271	286	94.8%	92.6%	17.3	15.8	48.6%
WAYNE	548	531	103.2%	92.8%	15.2	15.6	46.9%
WEBSTER	128	144	88.9%	91.1%	15.5	16.2	34.6%
WETZEL	259	272	95.1%	94.2%	14.6	15.9	46.1%
WIRT	74	80	92.5%	91.7%	14.3	19.2	41.7%
WOOD	916	986	92.9%	94.2%	16.0	19.8	59.5%
WYOMING	471	493	95.6%	88.6%	19.2	17.7	33.8%

In West Virginia...

One out of every 13.7 babies born weighs less than 5.5 pounds.

One out of every 118.8 babies dies before his first birthday.

One out of every 3,736.7 children dies before his 14th birthday.

One out of 2.1 children receives free or reduced school meals.

One out of every 270 children suffers from child abuse or neglect.

One out of every 18.6 female teens ages 15-19 gives birth.

One out of every 9.6 births is to an unmarried teen.

One out of every 6.2 7th through 12th graders drops out of school.

One out of every 3,718.1 juveniles has been accused of a crime.

One out of every 1,342.7 teens dies due to violence.

One in every 4.2 births is to a mother with less than a 12th grade education.

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FIFTH ANNUAL WV KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK RELEASED

A new report discusses child poverty and low school achievement, and profiles three national blue ribbon schools that serve high numbers of low-income students.

The fifth annual *WV KIDS COUNT Data Book*, a county-by-county report on the well-being of children in West Virginia, was released March 25, 1997, by the West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund at the University of Charleston's Maroon and Gold Room. The 1996 report focuses on education and children in poverty.

During the release of the data book, four high school students, selected as essay winners in KIDS COUNT contest, read excerpts from their essays about how schools can better prepare them to contribute to society and participate in tomorrow's economy. The students selected were: Amanda England, Braxton County High School; Elizabeth Gibson, Braxton County High School; Alzira Leques, Winfield High School; and Marcus Thudium, George Washington High School.

"The improvement of education for children in poverty is one of the critical factors to reduce welfare dependency and to prepare students to participate in tomorrow's economy," said Margie Hale, Executive Director of the West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund.

Ten percent of West Virginia's children live in families where one parent worked all year, yet wages did not bring them above the poverty level. These are the working poor. Thirty percent of our poor children have at least one parents who works all year. This contradicts several notions underlying welfare reform: (1) that the poor don't work, and (2) working will create self-sufficiency. A number of actions can improve the situation of the working poor, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit. A critical long-term factor is to improve education, particularly for children in poverty so that they can secure high-wage jobs and be self-sufficient.

The connection between education and poverty is illustrated in the report using text and maps. The education and poverty indicators that were chosen are (1) student attendance, (2) percent of high school dropouts, (3) percent of high school graduates, (4) pupil to teacher ratio, (5) teacher/administrator experience in years, (6) percent of births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education, (7) percent of children approved for free and reduced school meals, (8) employment to population ratio, and (9) the unemployment rate.

MORE--MORE--MORE

The report also profiles three national blue ribbon schools in West Virginia that serve high concentrations of low-income students. A national blue ribbon school award is the highest honor a school can receive. Among many other things, these schools provide opportunities for at-risk students and those unusually talented; a staff development program, particularly for new teachers; programs that prepare students to live effectively in a society that is culturally and ethnically diverse; and special programs to assist potential dropouts.

The national blue ribbon schools profiled in the report are Troy Elementary School in Gilmer County, Sherman Junior High School in Boone County, and Hundred High School in Wetzel County.

"The single most powerful predictor of school achievement is socioeconomic status," said KIDS COUNT Board member and Braxton County School Superintendent Kenna Seal.

"Our research shows that the great majority of West Virginia's blue ribbon schools are in counties where child poverty rates are lower and where teacher and administrator experience is above average," said Hale. "We have developed maps to illustrate these points."

The principals of the profiled schools had several ideas about how their achievements could be replicated in other schools and districts serving high concentrations of poor children: (1) encourage the exchange of information between principals and teachers throughout the state, (2) select principals who want to help children and who are able to think creatively and take risks, (3) encourage teachers and principals to visit other high-achieving schools for ideas and inspiration, (4) make sure the principal has a vision and is committed to high performance, and (5) promote conferences where teachers and principals can interact and share programs and experiences.

The *1996 WV KIDS COUNT Data Book* measures trends for child well-being at a county and state level for a 14-year period from 1980 to 1994. Copies of the report are available for $5.00 each from the West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund, 1031 Quarrier Street, Suite 313, Charleston, WV 25301 or by calling (304)345-2101 or toll-free at 1-888-543-7268.

The mission of the West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund is to improve the condition of West Virginia's children by mobilizing the public and private sectors to create prevention and early intervention programs, policies, and strategies. Members of the Fund are among the state's most respected business, community, and religious leaders.

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